FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 101 *24 May 1978*

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Prime Minister Holds Press Conference With Local Journalists C 1 1/A6
SNA: Kuwait Asks USSR To Restrain Ethiopia in Eritrea C 3 1/A8

UAE

AL-WAHDAH Urges Arab Support for Eritrea C 3 1/A8

YEMEN--YAR

President al-Ghashmi Receives Soviet Ambassador C 3 1/A8

EGYPT

As-Sadat Makes Statement, Holds Press Conference D 1 1/A9
Authorities Confiscate Opposition Paper AL-AHALI D 20 1/B14
Opposition Party Makes Statement on Referendum [AL-AHRAR 22 May] D 20 1/B14
AL-AHRAR Regrets Seizure of Leftist Paper [22 May] D 21 1/C1
Zairian Envoy Arrives With Letter for As-Sadat D 21 1/C1
Chairman of AL-AHRAM Establishment Appointed D 21 1/C1

IRAQ

Soviet Union Advised Against Eritrea Involvement E 1 1/C2
Egypt Deports Arab Students Critical of Regime E 1 1/C2
Transport Minister Leaves for Moscow Discussions E 1 1/C2
Oil Minister Returns From Moscow, Makes Statement E 1 1/C2
Health Minister Returns from WHO Meeting in Geneva E 2 1/C3
Greek Foreign Minister Rallis Concludes Visit E 2 1/C3
Saddam Husayn Congratulates Yugoslavia's Djuranovic E 2 1/C3
RCC Vice Chairman Receives Cable From PRC Leader E 2 1/C3

JORDAN

Government Suspends Newspaper AD-DUSTUR F 1 1/C4
Spokesman Denies Reported Amnesty for Prisoners F 1 1/C4
Husayn Returns Home Following Visit to Saudi Arabia F 1 1/C4
Prince Hasan Leaves for Poland, Austria, Switzerland F 1 1/C4
Armed Forces Commander in Chief Returns From Austria F 1 1/C4

LEBANON

Butrus Discusses Current Issues, Visit to Syria G 1 1/C5
Syrian Defense Minister Inspects Syrian Unit in Lebanon G 2 1/C6
Nationalist Movement Rejects UNIFIL 'Interference' in Lebanon G 3 1/C7
Baghdad: Phalangists Kill Six Guards of the Cedar G 3 1/C7

SYRIA

World Youth Symposium Opens in Damascus H 1 1/C8
Holds Rally H 1 1/C8
Addressed by Khaddam H 2 1/C9

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID Rejects Mobutu's Allegations of Algerian Interference I 1 1/C10

LIBYA

Jordan, Libya Agree on Economic, Scientific Cooperation I 1 1/C10
Jordanian Finance Minister Leaves I 2 1/C11
Lebanese Nationalist Movement Delegation Arrives in Tripoli I 2 1/C11

SUDAN

Information Minister Comments on Relations With USSR, Ethiopia I 2 1/C11
[Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI 20 May]
Qatari Military Delegation Arrives in Khartoum I 4 1/C13

TUNISIA

Commentary Views African Responsibility for Foreign Intervention I 4 1/C13
[L'ACTION 16 May]

ISRAEL

Controversy Over W. Bank Land Appropriations Continues N 1 1/C14
Weizman Denies Reports N 1 1/C14
Land Authority Denies Involvement N 1 1/C14
Bethlehem Mayor Protests N 2 1/D1
Documents To Be Honored N 2 1/D1
Justice Ministry Statement N 3 1/D2
Reportage on Activities Concerning Various Settlements N 3 1/D2
Land for Gush Emunim N 3 1/D2
Qiryat Arba' Investigation [HA'AREZ 23 May] N 3 1/D2
Shilo Settlement To Stay [HA'AREZ 23 May] N 4 1/D3
No Expropriation Expected ['AL HAMISHMAR 23 May] N 4 1/D3
YEDI'OT AHARONOT on Settlements [23 May] N 5 1/D4
DAVAR on Settlements [23 May] N 6 1/D5
Rubinstein Urges DMC Withdrawal if Peace Not Promoted N 6 1/D5
Reaction to Rubinstein [DAVAR 23 May] N 6 1/D5
Yadin Avoids Reaction [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 23 May] N 7 1/D6
Brilliant Considers Issues [POST 24 May] N 7 1/D6
Sharon's Group Organizing for Expected Contest [HA'AREZ 23 May] N 8 1/D7
Sources Say U.S. Awaits Answers to Questions [DAVAR 23 May] N 8 1/D7
More on U.S. Attitude ['AL HAMISHMAR 23 May] N 9 1/D8
POST Discusses 'Debate Raging' on West Bank Issue [24 May] N 10 1/D9
Poll Indicates Majority Support for Cabinet Policies N 10 1/D9
Peace Now Movement Seeks Financial Aid From U.S. Jews

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Taraki Meets With Tribal Representatives	S 1	1/D10
Delhi: Taraki Says Islam Safe in Afghanistan	S 2	1/D11

BANGLADESH

Burmese Refugee Influx Continues; 186 Die in Camps	S 2	1/D11

INDIA

Bengalees Reportedly Flee to India to Avoid Expulsion	S 2	1/D11
Vajpayee Comments on India's Foreign Relations	S 2	1/D11
Minister Kundu Comments on Nonalined Bureau Meeting	S 4	1/D13

PAKISTAN

AFP: Foreign Correspondents Group Objects to Gag Rule	S 4	1/D13
Mrs Bhutto's House Arrest Extended by 3 Months	S 5	1/D14
Haq's Secretariat Catches Fire; Inquiry Ordered	S 5	1/D14
Government Hints at Restoring Pro-Bhutto Paper	S 5	1/D14

SRI LANKA

AFP: 22 Suspected Terrorists Arrested in Jaffna	S 6	1/E1

BRIEFS

Indian Ambassador to Switzerland	S 6	1/E1

Item 856-B-6 PrEx 7.10:FBIS-MEA-78-101

FBIS-MEA-78-101
Wednesday
24 May 1978
Vol V No 101

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

58

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE WITH LOCAL JOURNALISTS

LD232326Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Text] At 1000 today Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister, received at Government House the chairman and members of the Kuwaiti Journalists Association and chief editors of the local daily and weekly papers. At this meeting, which was attended by 'Abd al-Latif al-Bahr, director of his highness's office; Ahmad as-Sayyid 'Abd as-Samad, acting under secretary of the Ministry of Information; 'Abd al-'Aziz Ja'far, assistant under secretary for broadcasting affairs; and Muhammad (as-Sanawsi), assistant under secretary for television affairs, his highness spoke about a number of local issues and dealt with Kuwait's policy in the Arab and international spheres.

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah began the meeting by welcoming the journalists. He said that his meeting with them was designed to address them with complete frankness and clarity about our internal issues and to get acquainted with the views of the press, represented by its chief editors, regarding these issues. He called on the chief editors to adhere to accuracy in all news, articles and reports they write in a manner that does not conflict with Kuwait's interests.

His highness the crown prince and prime minister stressed that had it not been for the cohesion of the internal front and (?the slogan of national unity), their fathers and forefathers would not have been able to overcome their tribulations.

His highness went on to speak about Kuwait's foreign policy, describing the way it was formulated by his highness the late amir, may he rest in peace, and is being followed by his highness the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, may God grant him long life. He said that this policy in the international arena supports the peoples struggling for their freedom and independence. He pointed out that Kuwait is a member of the nonalined movement and that it is a small, peaceful country which befriends those who befriend it and is hostile to those who are hostile to it.

Regarding the Arab sphere, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah stressed that Kuwait fully welcomes cooperation with all sister countries, opposes the policy of blocs and axes and believes in Arab unity and solidarity. From this principle Kuwait supports any Arab gathering which reviews our Arab issues.

Regarding the Palestinian problem, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah stressed Kuwait's support for the revolution of the Palestinian people. He said: We have supported and backed and will continue to support and bolster the Palestinian people in their right to self-determination and to regain their land, despite the sacrifices it will cost us--sacrifices which stem from our strong belief. He referred to the division and fragmentation which recently befell the Arab nation, giving Israel and its supporters the opportunity to occupy more Arab territories in southern Lebanon. He attributed this to a number of factors which emerged at one time. He said that Israel up to this moment is still refusing complete withdrawal from Lebanese territory despite UN Security Council Resolution No 425.

His Highness the crown prince and prime minister spoke about the efforts continuously being exerted by Kuwait to bring the Arabs together. In this connection he underlined the role it is carrying out together with a number of other sister Arab countries within the framework of the Arab Solidarity Committee headed by President Ja'far Numayri. He also stressed the role played by Kuwait at the UN Security Council in solving the problem of Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon by the council's adopting the resolution demanding that Israel withdraw.

Regarding Kuwait's policy in the Gulf, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah stressed that the Gulf region is considered vital to the world. He said: The major powers have aims, designs and plans regarding intervention in this region. He declared that Kuwait is in touch with sisters in the Gulf in order to exchange views and to coordinate among themselves. It also welcomes the establishment of further cooperation in all fields to achieve the security, prosperity and happiness of the region and its peoples.

He referred to the visit last week of the delegation from sister Iraq under the leadership of 'Izzat Ibrahim, member of the Revolution Command Council and minister of the interior, to Kuwait. He said that the agreements and protocols produced by the visit are designed to strengthen cooperation with the brethren in Iraq in the interest of the peoples of the two sister countries.

In reply to a question about the demarcation of boundaries between Kuwait and Iraq, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah referred to the talks he had in Baghdad last year when he was minister of the interior and defense. His highness expressed his profound optimism concerning the results of his recent meeting with 'Izzat Ibrahim in the presence of Shaykh Jabir al-'Ali, deputy prime minister and minister of information, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. He also praised the good spirit manifested by the fraternal Iraqi side during this meeting. He stressed that the question of boundary demarcation between Kuwait and sister Iraq will be resolved in view of the fraternal and neighboring links which join the two countries.

In the national sphere, his highness the crown prince and prime minister stressed the need to provide security for all citizens. He said that the Interior Ministry is equipped with the most modern means of combatting crime and that a number of police officers are being sent to some advanced countries to attend training courses in this field. He declared that Kuwait is seeking to obtain the most modern weapons to maintain its national independence in order to provide support for the Arab nation. His highness stressed the state's concern with providing suitable housing for all citizens in all regions, and with providing electricity, health services and other public services. He also stressed the state's attention to education policy throughout the country.

In the information sphere, His Highness Shaykh Sa'id al-'Abdallah announced the state's intention to keep up with progress and development in the two fields of broadcasting and television. He said that the most modern complex of its kind has been set up in the region and that Kuwaiti broadcasting will move all its equipment to this new complex in the next few days.

At the end of the meeting His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah stressed that the government profoundly believes in democracy and rule of equality because we are molded thus and because our Islamic traditions and the spirit of the one Kuwaiti family dictate this to us. He said that democracy builds, it does not destroy; it brings together and does not divide, but that the state opposes those who use the atmosphere of freedom and democracy to realize specific aims categorically rejected by our society. He stressed the government's categorical rejection of the comments, articles and reports being published by certain papers, whether their intentions are good or bad, which are bound to harm this society and national unity. His Highness Shaykh Sa'd welcomed constructive and objective criticism. He said: The government in all its machinery is prepared to investigate any criticism when specific instances are given, but not criticism aimed at creating confusion.

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah stressed that Kuwait enjoys stability under the direction and guidance of his highness the amir of Kuwait, the senior father of this cohesive Kuwaiti family, shepherd of its renaissance and guardian of the welfare of the homeland and the citizens. His Highness Shaykh Sa'd said that this meeting with journalists and the information media will not be the only one, but that there will be regular meetings.

SNA: KUWAIT ASKS USSR TO RESTRAIN ETHIOPIA IN ERITREA

LD231706Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait has asked the Soviet Union to put pressure on Ethiopia to halt its attack against Eritrea and grant the Eritrean people the right to self-determination. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kuwait Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah summoned Soviet ambassador Nikolay Sikachev today and informed him of Kuwait's concern over the situation in Eritrea.

UAE

AL-WAHDAH URGES ARAB SUPPORT FOR ERITREA

JN231040Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0620 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 May--Commenting on Eritrea and the Ethiopian attempt to invade that country, AL-WAHDAH says: Eritrea is confronting an Ethiopian aggression. Ethiopian troops are trying to impose a military solution on a people whose right to self-determination has been recognized in UN documents and who are supported by all free men in the world.

The Eritrean people have been confronting aggression since 1951 and have endured the oppression of the Ethiopian militarists. Fighting is now going on along two main fronts. The Eritrean people, who have been subjugated and who have been carrying arms for 17 years, need Arab support to reinforce their position against the Ethiopian militarists.

The Eritrean issue is no longer separate from other Arab issues. It is an issue which can turn the Red Sea into a real Arab lake. Therefore, Eritrea should receive more attention. It should not be left alone to facebeing overrun by Ethiopia from four fronts and being placed in a bottleneck. There is still time for intensive efforts to support the Eritrean stand.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT AL-GHASHMI RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR

JN211320Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 May 78 JN

[Text] At 0900 today, Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received His Excellency Vasili Kornev, Soviet ambassador in San'a'. During the meeting, talks were held on relations between the two friendly countries.

AS-SADAT MAKES STATEMENT, HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

NC2311562 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 May 78 NC

[Text] Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah, 23 May--President Anwar as-Sadat gave a press conference in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah at 1215 today. The chief editors and senior writers of the Egyptian newspapers and a large number of foreign reporters and world news agencies and television correspondents attended.

The conference was also attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, Chief of the President's Office Hasan Kamil, Culture and Information Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi and ASU Central Committee First Secretary Dr Mustafa Khalil.

Opening the press conference, President Anwar as-Sadat made a statement which contains the following: In God's name, I am truly highly delighted to be meeting with this distinguished, elite group of our writers, journalists and information men of every type, particularly at this very phase which, I believe, marks a turning point. It is imperative for all of us to pause and grasp its dimensions now that the people have had their say.

You are the holders of a trust. I am always confident and have always considered honesty in writing to be the most honorable kind of honesty. You are responsible for placing before our people the facts--clear, specific and free from all appeals to falsify the truth or to falsify history for the sole purpose of achieving ambitions through methods which have been outdated since the emergence of the 23 July Revolution and which, God willing, will remain outdated forever.

At the same time that I meet with you, I want the correspondents and the journalists of the whole world to meet with us, because there is no longer anything we fear, and there is absolutely no longer anything for us to hide. This is so because what is permissible and what is not permissible are clear and the people's word uttered in the referendum 2 days ago is decisive, definitive and responsible.

This referendum is no support for me. It is above all support for sound democracy as called for by the sixth principle of the 23 July Revolution. The referendum is support for this democracy, which was brought about by correcting the course. It is also a lesson for those who had not known or those who had deliberately ignored the fact that it is imperative for the democratic course to be honestly committed to those values of this country which have insured this country's survival and existence throughout several centuries. During these centuries this country has faced the raiders and the imperialists, while the people have remained noble, steadfast and strong to this day and, God willing, until doomsday.

I want my meeting with you to serve as an opportunity for us to hold a dialog, and I want our people to hear this dialog, and I want the whole world to listen--our Arab world and the outside world. This is so because, as you know and as I have frequently said, Egypt--more than any other state in the world--deserves democratic rule. It is untrue, as some people claim, that the Egyptian people have not yet come of age. No, absolutely not.

The first government emerged on the banks of the Nile. Here, the first state emerged on the banks of the Nile. Our people are mature and alert and they are fully entitled to the state, government and stability which began some 7,000 years ago when the people of several states of today's civilized world were living in caves and in trees. Egypt is not, as some people claim, in need of anybody's guardianship; absolutely not.

I can talk to you and I will talk to you after we begin our dialog. For the past 8 years--since I assumed leadership--I can emphasize with complete confidence and assurance that the political popular base was very aware and conscious of every decision and every action I carried out. Indeed, I would not be exaggerating to say that this base has reacted ahead of those around me to many decisions that have been adopted. In this respect, I cite the following example:

On 4 February 1971, only 4 months after I had assumed office, I presented my first peace initiative to the People's Assembly. Those around me--the Higher Executive Committee and the centers of power--came out of the People's Assembly embittered and stunned. They could not comprehend nor were they alert enough to understand what I had presented to the People's Assembly and to the entire world in February 1971--the first peace initiative. All of them came out of the People's Assembly meeting and went and held another meeting in order to exploit this initiative among the people. They thought it would be an opportunity to start the process of getting rid of me as they had been planning.

This took place on 4 February. On Friday, 5 February, the people responded unanimously with vigilance and awareness. They came to me on Saturday, 6 February--to this place where we are now sitting. They came to me as one man within 24 hours of the initiative with their support and blessings. Our people's vigilance was foremost.

I can say a great deal about this, but all I want to tell you is that the people are conscious and genuine, strong and faithful, and do not require trusteeship or guardians. This is the significance of the referendum which took place a few days ago and which I consider as a turning point in our democratic march.

Some were perturbed and others began to make preparations to confront such extraordinary measures as reneging on democracy, reopening the detention camps and again imposing custodianship. Never, never. All those who thought this were not rising to the level of responsibility or understanding nor to the level of our people's awareness and understanding.

The result of the referendum, which took place in an atmosphere of complete freedom, as the foreign correspondents and you yourselves have seen with your own eyes, confirms that Egyptian democracy respects opinions and differing points of view and has equal respect for those who said yes and those who said no.

I do not want to talk for long. We are in need of more dialog at this juncture which, as I said, is a turning point in our democratic course. We must sit and discuss everything freely and frankly and in a manner which helps our people to comprehend all the dimensions of what has happened so that the course will be corrected.

On the other hand, you as journalists and information men are called upon to put all the facts before the people, particularly since we are beginning a unique experiment for the first time--that is, that the press should become the fourth estate.

The whole world and men of law know that there are three estates. The executive, legislative and judicial estates. In the name of the people we will begin a new and unique experiement, which is that the press should become the fourth estate.

That is why I said I do not want to talk for long. I do not want the talk to come from one side. It must be a dialog in the context that we are a single family, whose affairs we must discuss freely and frankly and with love, concern and commitment to the supreme interest of this country, to which we are proud to belong.

President as-Sadat then answered a question on how his excellency visualizes the coming stage, following the landslide popular support for the principles declared by President as-Sadat, principles which the people approved in the Sunday referendum.

President as-Sadat said: I now have the six principles which have been approved by the people. Before speaking about my visualization, I want to go back a little. As you know, since we began our democratic experiment, I have been returning to the people every time.

You recall that, immediately following the October battle, I lifted the censorship on the press for the first time. It is now 4 years since I did this.

I then submitted to the people a paper for developing the ASU. The paper was discussed, and it was concluded that any political action must have three platforms: right, left and center. I believe I have nothing to add to this.

These platforms competed in the People's Assembly elections, held in 1976. They exercised their work in a truly party atmosphere.

For this reason, at the opening of the People's Assembly in November 1976, I had to waste no time and to order the experiment to begin. Hence, the platforms became parties.

The party experiment began in November 1976. In this world in which we live every experiment and work has its pros and cons. The first serious violation occurred during the 18 and 19 January 1977 events. Until that time, the leftist platform was playing its role in the elections, even with the help of the ASU Central Committee. It received material aid and other aid on an equal footing with the other two platforms. I had no objection to that. We cannot bury our heads in the sand in order not to see this fact, which is that in today's world there is right, left and center.

In those 2 days, the leftwing or the leftists decided their own fate. The people have the legitimate right to come out and object to a decision issued by the executive authority--by the government. It is right for the people to go to the People's Assembly; it is right for them to go to the officials and express their opinion; it is right for them to go to the presidential office and express their views.

All this is possible, but to express our complaint against the decisions which raise the prices of food commodities by going to the consumer stores and looting and burning them will not solve the supply problem.

In the field of transportation, we have a crisis. Is the right and just solution to this crisis that we should go and destroy 40 buses? So that you may learn how patient I was and how much I endured at one session, I will tell you this: When I was on a visit to Iran 3 or 4 years ago, I learned that Iran was manufacturing Mercedes buses. So I asked the shah about this and he said yes. I told him: I have a transportation crisis. Can you send me a number of buses? He replied: I will send you 300 buses based on the conditions of the market. That was fine. When I returned I asked the prime minister and the ministers concerned to ratify the agreement. They did and the 300 buses were imported so that we would solve the transportation crisis.

To show you how democratic behavior was violated: A deputy stands up and levels accusations right and left saying that the deal involves so and so. The deal is debated in the assembly after Egypt had been filled with doubts. The doubts must be underscored twice because this is a fundamental issue about which I want to talk to you today. However, it was eventually established, through a free discussion, that there was nothing wrong with the deal, absolutely nothing. The purpose of all that took place was only to create confusion and excitement and to exploit our problems. The greater calamity does not lie here but in casting doubts and agitating so as to prevent any official from working or making a decision for fear of defamation. Still the greatest calamity is that, on top of all this, we go and destroy 40 buses with the excuse that we are protesting a government decision. This is not the true character of the Egyptian people. I have said that the Egyptian people were the first in history to establish a government. The first state in history started here. This is not the method of the Egyptian people but the method of the mobs.

After all that took place--the looting and burning of the consumer stores; the burning of buses while we were in a transportation crisis; the attempt to burn Cairo in an organized and planned manner in the sense that they brought a burning bus and put it in front of the fire station to prevent the fire engines from coming out to extinguish any fire; the use of the press everywhere; and the incitement of the mobs who dispersed before the security forces could get to the square--I was surprised by the left, which is supposed to be an Egyptian left, describing what had happened as a popular uprising. I say that from that date those who were in charge of the left had decided their own fate. This does not mean that I am against the presence of the left as a principle or as a basis. No. I am against whoever tries to exploit democracy, whether from the right, left or center. I am against those who do not adhere to ethics whatever their affiliation. I am against whoever tries to falsify history in any form, whatever his party affiliation.

From that date those responsible for the left decided its fate. I said with complete frankness at that time that I had made a mistake in allowing corrupt elements [to act freely]. These elements have been established, taught and educated by the Soviet Union. And whatever the Soviet Union says is right and whatever it rejects is wrong. Moscow Radio and the Soviet Union were the only ones in the world that supported those who said that the uprising of the thieves was a popular uprising.

I am not making accusations. But since that date the matter has been decided; 18 and 19 January passed, and the activity continued. I did not go to the people, who denounced the incidents. Perhaps you do not know that simple people donated 5 piasters, 25 piasters, 10 piasters, a pound and even an investment certificate in order to express their denunciation of the arson and destruction of utilities, which are the property of all of us in Egypt. You may be astonished to know that the total contributions made by the people reached more than 800,000 pounds. I instructed the presidential office to send the People's Assembly a list of the names of the donors and the sums of money they donated.

I should have put this matter before the people in the February referendum which followed these incidents so that they could have expressed their opinions on it but the experience is still fresh. I want this experiment to succeed. I put it off. Many people here in Egypt, however, are making a mistake if they think that I forget or that I change my mind on matters of principle. Absolutely not--not even after 100 years.

The establishment of the Al-Wafd Party was announced--o talk about the establishment of the Al-Wafd Party began--in the summer of that year. I warned in more than one speech last summer, and in the Suez Canal area to be precise--you can go back to these speeches; you printed them--I warned that there can be no going back to the methods that existed before the 23 July Revolution, to the society of the one percent [of wealthy and ruling people], to the society of the pashas. I warned against all this. The desire of some to be in the spotlight made them forget a great deal and prevented them from seeing a basic thing which a politician must know--that is, when to stand on the stage and when to come down and leave his place to new generations.

The attraction of being in the spotlight got the upper hand, and the New Al-Wafd Party was established. I have no objection to this at all. The procedure for the establishment of the party went on according to the parties law issued by the People's Assembly. I was surprised to see a return to everything that existed before 23 July. There was no feudalism in Egypt, the party leader said. There was no feudalism. A counselor stood in the jurists club last October, after hearing this in the building next to the jurists club, which is the lawyers union, and spoke about his experience while he was serving as deputy public prosecutor in Al-Munufiyah. He was called to the house of a peasant working in the Amir Muhammad 'Ali district and was told how the chief clerk of the district had persecuted him. We know that, as peasants, the first characteristic of a peasant is faith. He learns his deep faith from the earth he lives on in his village. We also know that suicide is against his faith. If this matter is all right in the city, it has no place at all in rural society, however grave matters may be. This has been true until today and will be true until the end.

I am speaking about this peasant because I am also a peasant. The counselor found that the peasant had hanged himself. The counselor was stunned and told this story to all Egypt at a ceremony which the jurists club held in October. I was present at the ceremony.

The simple peasant reached the point of blasphemy because the chief clerk of the district made life difficult for him. The peasant had dignity; he resisted and continued to resist. The chief clerk deprived him of all means of livelihood.

The peasant was forced to go to a place far away to work in order to feed himself and his family. Even then the chief clerk did not leave him alone. The detectives in Mit Khalaf also began making life difficult for the peasant.

In the end, after all possible resistance, the peasant hanged himself because he could not find work to feed his hungry family.

The leader of the New Al-Wafd Party says that there was no feudalism in Egypt. Very strange. Worse than that, he says that the 23 July Revolution was a military coup. When they found that the 23 July Revolution was here to stay, they said it was a military coup supported by the people.

I say that in its effect here in Egypt the 23 July Revolution is not less important than the French Revolution and will remain so for eternity.

The French Revolution had several setbacks. Despite these setbacks, the French people gained their rights forever. Feudalists no longer control the land and the destiny and life of those living on it. Freedom, fraternity and equality remain.

In France now, anyone who wants to be elected must go to the workers and the farmers and obtain their votes. With the advent of the French Revolution the age of feudalism in France ended forever.

The same impact occurred here in Egypt. Some people do not understand that the word "peasant" is no longer a swear word. This thing has stopped forever. The Turks used to curse someone by calling him a peasant. They also despised the worker in the same way as they despised the peasant.

The one percent class represented the big landlords and the rich, who did not have problems in their homes like those which the people suffered.

Some people do not understand that since the 23 July Revolution, regardless of its encroachments, the broad base of the Egyptian people--peasants, workers and honest intellectuals--has gained it rights forever.

I declared before the People's Assembly recently and I declare before you now that I am responsible for every decision taken and every encroachment that took place during the 23 July Revolution--from its inception in July 1952 until I took office in September 1970. Acting on this basis, I repaired everything, dressed the wounds and said: Let us have a new start; let us discard hatred; let us encourage love and form the society of the Egyptian family.

There were people born to govern--a class emerged to rule because it had priority rights. I do not know, maybe it is just as it was in the past. We were not taught the law of divine right. They had the divine right to control the destiny of human beings. They were qualified to do this while others were not. This is strange.

[It is being claimed] that the 23 July Revolution is a coup and that encroachments have occurred. A comparison is then drawn between the revolution of 1919 and that of 23 July. This is a shame. I have said it is a shame, shame, shame.

In the 1919 revolution, our people rose against the colonialists as their basic target. What was the result of the revolution? The result was a conflict over seats and positions, stealing, the title of pasha and other prominent titles. Was not this the result of the 1919 revolution with them completely forgetting about the colonialists? When the people staged the 1919 revolution, they said that they were rising against colonialist Britain. But for those who tried to exploit the revolution things ended in such a way as to make the eruption of the 23 July Revolution inevitable so as to eliminate all these effects forever.

That was a setback followed by an attempt to falsify history. [They claimed] that the 23 July Revolution was a military coup, that the old Al-Wafd Party and nobody else was the sole representative of the nation and that the revolution was staged in order to get rid of the Al-Wafd Party, as if there was a Al-Wafd Party when we rose on 23 July. There was a Al-Wafd Party, but no other party at the time, but it was completely worn out. It was the corruption in the Al-Wafd Party which precipitated the revolution because the rest of the parties, which were minority parties, had no influence on the popular base as the Al-Wafd Party had, which was a majority party. The Al-Wafd Party had become corrupt and worn out. All of us know who was behind all this.

Furthermore, there is a strange conspiracy of silence as to who had corrupted the Al-Wafd Party and caused it to become worn out, paying tribute once to the king and once to the British, and then once seeking the help of the king against the British and at other times seeking the help of the British against the king and so on and so forth. The Al-Wafd Party had a brilliant history of resisting the colonialist and the (?two squads).

When we were young, all of us here Wafdists and no one deviated from the Al-Wafd Party. There is a conspiracy of silence. The 23 July Revolution has continued to exist in order to say that this corruption must end forever and that the deprived broad base must also gain its right forever. Thus, there will be equal opportunities. I am extremely happy because in my village, where only I and my brothers were educated, there are now university professors, doctors, engineers, science and Azhar colleges. Why? Because there are equal opportunities. Whoever works hard and gets good marks will enter [the university], and he is not asked who his father is, or who he is, as was the case in the past, or asked to pay the expenses.

The leftist excesses about which I have spoken are very strange, particularly the excesses of the New Al-Wafd Party, whose only concern is how to renege and to cast doubt. Casting doubt has a history in our life in Egypt. When the old leftist group first learned politics and then made politics a profession, they adopted the casting of doubt as a weapon which later hit them right on the head, because when we staged our revolution in 1952, we lost all confidence in every one of them.

A bloody revolution was therefore inevitable in order to end all this. It was for this purpose that the burning of Cairo started. That was the first sign. As an alternative, however, we staged the 23 July Revolution 26 years ago and it was labeled the White Revolution. Not one drop of blood was shed. It is true that excesses occurred later, but the revolution dealt with them within itself but not by a counterrevolution. What I did on 15 May was not a counterrevolution but a revolution correcting the mother revolution of 23 July.

Nothing like this has happened in history. The French Revolution suffered a setback and the republic became an empire. This was not so here. Mistakes and excesses did occur within our revolution and we corrected them. Something more than this also happened. What happened is that, for the first time in the history of revolutions, a revolution takes place after 25 years to tell the people that it has completely kept the trust by establishing democracy, ending oppressive measures, closing the detention camps 6 years ago, giving freedom and providing security and safety to every citizen and establishing constitutional legitimacy instead of revolutionary legitimacy.

Everyone welcomed the establishment of the New Al-Wafd Party. I, as I have told you, have no objection to the establishment of a New Al-Wafd Party or a new national party--any party--but only under the concept which the people have been following for the last 25 years. There will be absolutely no going back under any circumstances. The casting of doubt harms me. How would the party come to power? Its primary aim is to come to power exactly as it did after the 1919 revolution. The parties became divided. The British gave us an incomplete independence in 1922 and preoccupied us with the constitution and the ministerial posts. They began to quarrel and continued to quarrel until we came in 1952. They got hold of each another and tore each other to pieces. The method of political action which has been the casting of doubt is clear. This has been the method which was followed in the past and is being followed today--that is, the casting of doubt.

Regarding the pyramid project, they have been saying that the state has sold the antiquities, culture and value of Egypt. Regarding the movie houses company which was established by 'Abd al-Mun'in as-Sawi, they are saying that it is aimed at selling the brains and heritage of Egypt. They are following the same old methods. There has been objection to the pyramid project right from the start. Well, why should the project not be rediscussed or canceled and another one started in its place?

I have no objection if a joint committee from the People's Assembly and government were to be set up for major projects, with capital of, say, over 50 or 60 million pounds. Thus, the projects would be approved by a governmental and popular--the People's Assembly--committee.

I have no objection if movie producers, distributors and actors were to form a company to repair the movie houses.

But the whole operation goes back to the past, to the old method: the casting of doubt and defamation. By their methods the people are lost. By their action they are exploiting the country's suffering, the difficulties of which we are all well aware, the economic crisis and the bottleneck in which we find ourselves. We still have at least 2 years to overcome our difficulties, God willing, as we had overcome difficulties much worse than these when our economy was below zero level, as I told you before the October battle.

To the encroachments of the left, I would add those of the politicians who love the limelight. What is worse is that there were accounts to be settled as if the people, their interests and entity were something relative, and we had to settle accounts, although the 23 July Revolution did not settle its accounts with them.

A proof of this is that after 25 years they are enjoying freedom, reassurance, democracy, constitutional legitimacy, closed detention camps and freedom of the press. Not a single one of them would have been able to rule without all these measures.

Today, there is a settlement of accounts with the 23 July Revolution. Why? Because of personal hatreds, malice and leadership whims. This method has ended. This is actually what made me call for a referendum, if you were to ask me. I said I must go back. There have been encroachments by people who wanted to exploit our problems. These people are the left, the leftist leaderships which rose and were reared on the laps of the Soviet Union. They are using the country as a springboard to power by way of sabotage, blood and destruction. They are boasting about all this.

For the first time in their lives they did not, nor did any other person in Egypt in the postindependence period, dream that anyone could issue a newspaper without a permit from the Press Department and the Interior Ministry. This is a long story.

For the first time because there is a democracy--because there is a real democracy in Egypt--a party law has been issued. The law gives every party the right to issue its newspaper. The party did not have to ask anyone but issued its paper immediately.

The left got to publish a newspaper of its own for the first time without permission from anyone. The law gives it this right. The supremacy of the law gives it this right. I do not know how many issues were published--12, 13 or 16 issues, 16 issues in 16 weeks, and every issue was full of venom, hatred and bitterness. During these 16 weeks they had no influence, and they will have no influence. But is this the right application of democracy? Is this the course of democracy? Is this the freedom of the press? Is this the commitment to the goals of the country, to social peace and national unity, at a time when we are facing fateful battles at home and abroad? Have they not watched Israel and seen how the people there tear each other apart, but in facing the outside world they say: We are all behind Begin. We shall never allow the United States to pressure us despite our basic disagreement with it. This has happened. I have not called for national awareness because there is no need for it. Why? Because my people are clearly with me. They trust me, and I trust them one hundred percent. But let us, at least, establish traditions for our future generations.

Sixteen issues of the paper were published. Now, regarding the publication of the secret leaflet, this is an old practice when the left was an underground movement. But the left now has a public journal, and no one has the right to stop its except the courts. Why then issue a second [secret], publication? It is just to destroy social peace?

What does the destruction of social peace mean? I want to develop Egypt. I am establishing the state of institutions in Egypt. I want every citizen in Egypt to feel secure and safe, because this is his right. Our people are mature enough. They are not disabled at all. They are mature and must play their role.

The hardships and problems we are experiencing are being exploited by some people. They are being exploited by the extreme left and the extreme right, which is manifested by the New Al-Wafd Party. This party wants to take the country back. Both are working to cause strife and bloodshed. This is not in the nature, traditions and values of our people. Absolutely not. The aim of their activity is to achieve power just as in the days of King Fu'ad and King Faruq. The aim then was to achieve power. They sought the help of the British against the king and the help of I don't know who against whom. The whole purpose, after all, is to contaminate society and cast doubt.

This is what prompted me to call for the referendum. It is 1 year late, and it should not have been delayed. The first principle in the referendum says: It is impermissible to assume senior posts in the state or the public sector, seek nomination as a board of directors candidate of trade unions or professional unions, write in the newspapers, work in any of the information media or in any post tending to influence public opinion, for anyone who advocates principles conflicting with or defaming religious law.

Clearly and frankly, as I have said, a person without faith cannot be trusted. This is how we are and how we grew up in the village. The village is the basis of all Egypt. The village produces the peasant, the worker, the intellectual, the soldier and national capitalist. It produces everything, and it gives us bread, food and everything. This is the village tradition.

A Marxist will not be allowed to assume a leading position. I say this frankly and clearly. You all know that when they assumed responsibility in the public sector they worked to establish a base for them in order to jump to power. In March 1973 they said that Egypt was finished. They contacted the foreign correspondents in Egypt. Some of them told the correspondents that a military coup was going to take place. Others said that the country was finished. As-Sadat would not fight. They used such terms as capitulation, defeatism and liquidation. They used so many terms that I cannot remember all of them.

In March 1973 they said Egypt was finished. They contacted a foreign correspondent, who then wrote three articles in the GUARDIAN and another three articles in the New York TIMES. Anyone who read these articles would say: May God have mercy on Egypt and its people.

These idiots did not know that in February I stood at the sand table model of the battle and that in March I gave my first order to prepare for the battle, but I did not say anything then. Regrettably, there were some Egyptian intellectuals, or those who call themselves intellectuals, among these idiots.

I have expressed my opinion on what is the meaning of intellect. If it does not add certain dimensions to a person, it is not intellect but merely a certificate.

I want to tell you what one of the trade union associations did once. You know that the student movement was dominated by the Marxist left in all of its branches and types.

One of the trade union associations sent for the mothers of the students who were under arrest on orders of the prosecutor. I did not impose martial law, before, during or after the October war. I do not need to impose it now. Martial law gives me the right to open detention camps. I have no intention of doing this.

What I did was that I referred the students to the prosecutor after they went too far. These students occupied the Supreme Council of the Universities at Cairo University and formed a student committee. The student committee inside the university and the communes in Cairo outside the university wanted to create a Marxist state. The students used obscene words.

In 1973 one of the professional trade union associations sent for the mothers of the students arrested for obscenity. The mothers came and sat at the association's headquarters in order to stage a demonstration. They wanted to prove that there was no stable regime in Egypt.

I have endured a lot of vilification. For this reason I tell you frankly that henceforth, now that the people have had their say, I will not compromise, come what may.

I will not compromise and I will not accept less than total commitment. I adopt my measures in broad daylight. I do not resort to under-the-table or secret measures. I adopt my measures in broad daylight before you and before the People's Assembly.

There are stipulations governing membership in the board of directors of the trade union organizations. They are mistaken if they believe that after 5 years I forgot what happened in 1973. No, I have not forgotten. Let everyone know and open his eyes: No matter how long it takes and no matter how patient I am, a time will come when I will stop him if he does not stop himself.

Concerning the press, I tell you frankly that at a certain stage communist journalists formed a majority.

I say it in front of you without any hesitation. I say that things will go on but they must be committed to their country. There is nothing between me and anyone else other than commitment to our country's aims. However, if he were to make a mistake, we are only humans. We must try to put back on the right path the one who harms the country. There must be no quarrel between me and any citizen as long as I am in power. I am not working in order to gain while I am in power. I am only afraid of having to account on the day of judgment.

While I am in power, I am responsible for every Egyptian citizen, for every grain of sand that is in the most remote desert. I fully understand my responsibility. They placed communists so that they would form the majority in the journalists association. Communists were placed in the newspaper administrations. Communists were placed in the Information and Culture Department. Moreover, I think that after 18 and 19 January, I would be neglecting my responsibility and the homeland if I were to allow the situation to continue as it was. This does not mean that I would ask that a person be removed from or placed on the list. No, never. I shall only say the following: From now on everyone must be committed to his country. If he does not want to be committed to his country, he must be prepared to be punished. There must be no negligence.

What has happened in the past? Newsmen in Iraq established an office and a board and announced their names officially. Iraq established a radio station. Up to this minute the duty of this station has been to slander Egypt, in which, according to it, there is no democracy. There is democracy there in Iraq where people are drowned in the Tigris River or eliminated. Here, according to the radio station, there is no democracy. They then are broadcasting slanders so that it would be said that the Egyptians are slandering their own country using Iraqi and Libyan radios. Well, some of these newsmen are members of the association. Does the association want them to continue as members?

I am sorry. In the past I used to say never mind and forgive and we would try to rectify things. But today, I am sorry. You heard me speak in the People's Assembly. You heard me say that I will send the result of the referendum to the newsmen's doyen. First, I shall send the result to the state's four main estates: the executive, the legislative, the judiciary and the press. I shall send the results so that they will be a document for history and so that the state authorities would keep them, be acquainted with them and apply them, because this is the people's will. I will never permit such negligence.

In Paris, the newspapers which used to be published in Beirut have moved to Paris. Libya is sending them reports and so is Iraq. A leftist writer who recently returned from Paris has made me happy. When he was in Paris, the Marxist-leftist Egyptians who are there surrounded him and said to him: Come and write with us and sell. He gave them a charming answer which pleased me when I heard it. He told them: Yes, but where will my salary come from? Who will pay my salary? They are there for all to see. The ones who finance them are known just as they had been in Beirut, and their duty is to slander Egypt. Will they shake Egypt? Never. Their paper appeared for 16 weeks here and it did not move anything here in Egypt. They who are there in Paris will not shake anything at all. But there will never be any negligence again.

A journalist who wants to increase his income will write so that he can earn a salary. Where can he write other than with people who want to slander Egypt and who can give a great deal of money? He will write for them. He will slander and attack his country so that the radios which are against Egypt will publish his writings and so on and so forth.

For this reason I am asking the journalists association not only this. I am also asking it to make public everything that was written before the October war. I want it to reveal who wrote what article and who preached defeatism or who preached the futility of confrontation between us and Israel. I want all this to be published and made known to the people so that everyone will be put in his place.

The press, and television and radio, which are no different from the press, were advocating things which were inconsistent with divine laws. These were calls for atheism.

Some people brag that religion is a stupid thing. They say that we must adopt what the world is adopting today and discard stupid things. The idea of Egypt as one family is nonsense and stupid to them. Faith. What faith? Everything in the world is now run by the computer. What has faith to do? The computer can solve any problem.

We cannot face the future with such ideas. We have seen what happened to the societies which adopted such ideas--the hippies and the acts of terrorism. We can see the dissolution around us. Our true strength lies in that we have a set of values which we have learned and which make the peasant among us stand fast against the most ferocious forces in the world.

I am speaking about myself. I am only a peasant from the Nile Valley. I confronted the Soviet Union and expelled 17,000 experts in 1 week. I went to the United States. I add addressed a joint session of Congress. I told them: I am not an ally. I have come as a friend. If you are wrong, I will say you are wrong; if you are right, I will say you are right.

I am a peasant from the Nile Valley. Where does all this come from? From the computer?

One of those who was working for Al-Ahram once said: Let us use the computer and see what it will say. The computer said: Do not contemplate waging war. The result will be certain defeat.

When I heard the story, I laughed. Why? The same story was repeated in Vietnam when the biggest and richest power, the United States, was defeated by the Vietnamese. The computer did all the calculations, except one thing. If they had asked me, I would have told them about it. I would tell them that the computer cannot speak about faith. This is something from the inner self and a secret among the secrets of the universe. "They ask you about the soul, say the soul is in the hands of my God." [Koranic verse]

There is a basis for all the new things that appear every day. The three heavenly religions started here. That is why I say clearly and frankly: I will attach great importance to behavior in the coming stage. I cannot appoint a person to a key post if his behavior is wrong and against the values of this country.

Whoever caused corruption of political life before the July revolution will not be allowed to join political parties or engage in political activities. It does not matter whether he assumed a ministerial portfolio while being a member of any of the political parties that were in the government before the 23 July 1952 Revolution or participated in the leadership and management of parties, except for the National Party and the Socialist Party--Misr al-Fatah (Young Egypt).

There is no need for me to explain this. It is clear. Corruption existed and corruption took place. This is what made us stage the 23 July Revolution. If we are adopting the ethics of the Egyptian family, we should have self-restraint and modesty, but if some prove to have no modesty, we should teach them to be modest and tell them: No, stay away. We will not humiliate you, impose custodianship on you or forbid you to go out or travel. No, stay where you are because you showed no modesty. Two parties are exempted. You are aware that the National Party adhered to its principles to the end. Some even used to make fun of these principles. Some used to scoff at the principle that there should be no negotiations except after evacuation, but the (?party) continued on its way. Ahmad Husayn never appeased the government or the British. The others were convicted by the revolutionary court--those who formed centers of power after the 23 July Revolution and were referred to the revolutionary court in criminal case number one of the year 1971, as well as those who were convicted of the crime of having illegally abused the liberties of the citizens or harmed them physically or morally.

We could not possibly do anything else, as we were engaged in a clearing up operation--as we were purging the march, we saw what the left, which was fostered by the Soviets, had done. We also saw what the extreme right, which wants to take us back unashamedly, had done. They lack a third group. After the 23 July Revolution, as I have said, I am responsible for everything that has happened since the morning of 23 July and will happen until I die.

These are the people of the centers of power whose cases and what they have done to the citizens we have heard about. These three groups are the same to me. In dealing with this, I am not acting as a politician. If I were to act as a politician, then I would appease one and turn him against the other until I finished him off, and then I would strike at the other one and so on and so forth until I cleared the atmosphere. This is politics. However, I am not a politician. No.

I am proud of the fact that this Egyptian family is telling me: You are the head of the Egyptian family. Therefore, any mistake that takes place during the march, I must put it completely before the people. It is inevitable that the road must be clear, sound and clean for the people in every phase. Why? Because I am not afraid to lose my position. My position is firm because the people want it to be so. This is the will of the people. Even if I were not in this position, I would still tell the people: The march must be cleared of so and so.

This is my method. It could be the method of a peasant or a method that is a little extreme. However, man cannot shape things other than as God shapes for him. While in this position, I want to tell you very clearly and frankly that the position of leadership must remain committed to responsibility and values, the values of this people, and the principles which stem from the soil of this people and which have been preserved by the people's genuineness, firmness and strength against all the raiders and colonialists.

I consider these--the class which emerged after the 23 July Revolution and what they have done--I consider them on an equal footing with the other two. Political life must be purged of them. If they know no modesty, we shall also teach them to be modest.

After this, anybody who is proved guilty of directly or indirectly committing any actions which disrupt political life in the country or endanger the national unity or social peace shall be punished. The writing or dissemination of articles or false and tendentious rumors which harm the national interest of the state, spread a defeatist spirit or undermine social peace and national unity come under heading of disrupting political life and endangering the national unity and social peace.

Each system in the world has its own instruments to protect it. We have chosen democracy as our course and will not retreat from it. We will not introduce, as I have already said, exceptional measures. There will never again be detention camps or custodianship. There will be no martial law, arrests or detention. Nothing of this sort will happen again.

There are parties. I am sorry to have to tell the parties again after 26 years to purge themselves. We told the parties 26 years ago: Purge yourselves. At that time they believed that they were more clever than we were. Each party got rid of two or three of its members and came back to say: We have purged ourselves.

I am sorry to say that after 26 years there is impudence. The process has been repeated. This time, I will not say "Purge yourselves." Relying on the will of this people, I will purge and the purge will go ahead. I was surprised to see those who were supposed to be purged come back after 26 years to demand the rule and the leadership of this country. This is indeed regrettable and sad, but I have no regrets that we are applying constitutional legitimacy. I have no regrets at all because we can correct any course through constitutional legitimacy.

The press is the people's fourth estate and it belongs to the people in accordance with the provisions of Law 256 of the year 1968. According to these provisions, the press must abide by the state's socialist democratic system, social peace, national unity, the workers and peasants socialist gains and the press code of honor.

I want you to distribute the editions of the leftist paper as a party journal for the sake of amusement. Nobody has the right to place any restrictions on it. There is a total freedom of the press here. Distribute these editions to the people in the country so that they can find out how the party press was used and how total democracy was exploited. I say "total" not only because there are no press censors but also because the party needed nobody's permission to issue its journal. This is the opposite of what used to happen in this country. The permission of no quarter was sought. Why? Because the party issued its journal in application of the parties law and because we are a state of institutions which believes in the supremacy of the law. The party issued its journal and nobody objected.

The press is the property of the people. I know many examples when the press was the property of individuals before the revolution. There are many veterans who lived through this epoch with me. No, it is not you, Dr 'A'ishan [apparent reference to famous writer Dr 'A'ishah who seems to be in the audience]. Many veterans lived through this epoch with me and know what the situation was when the newspapers were the property of individuals and how these papers conducted their business. There are some papers today which want to dictate their views and ideas to this country. We have had enough of this. We know what the press which was owned by the individuals did. This is historical fact. I blame you for one thing. There must not be a conspiracy of silence. Place the facts before the people. I want absolutely nothing for myself, nothing merely for the protection of this system. I want to protect our future generations and the future. I want to protect our fate. Spell out all the facts and say without restraint what the state of affairs of the newspapers was when they were privately owned.

As for private ownership of the newspapers, I will not accept having any individual mobilizing public opinion. I will not accept having a newspaper belong to a financier who uses it for advertisements aimed at making profit. I have no confidence in such a financier and will not accept him as a guide for public opinion. I will not accept having a paper become the property of a renegade party which wants to restore the past state of affairs as though it was all milk and honey before 1952 and as if deprivation, pain, bitterness and humilation came afterward. What a shame!

It is time, as I have already said, and I will insist that the People's Assembly issue a law to be called the "shame law" and that the preamble of this law should read: "The Egyptian land knows what shame is and what its limits are." We have been raised to understand these limits.

Boasting has reached such an extent that some want to distort the facts completely. This is a shame and we must call it just that. After this, the People's Assembly will draft the provisions and formulate the legislation.

I could have drafted a law and applied this law immediately, including in the law everything that I was aiming at in the referendum. I did not do this because I wanted the people to participate with me. The people have expressed their opinion. It is now the turn of the People's Assembly to incorporate the six principles in a clear, precise law which does not leave any room for bargaining or compromise solutions. It must be simple, frank and clear. The socialist prosecutor will then act. Why the socialist prosecutor? It is because the investigation and the action will be primarily political. One might err. He might not err, but he might say what Malik [an Arab poet] said when speaking of his love of wine and go to the judge and say: This is my opinion and it is mere opinion. The judge might accept the case at face value. This is an opinion. I might differ in opinion with you. But when it comes to politics, it is a different matter. The socialist prosecutor will carry out a political investigation and then go to the People's Assembly. The People's Assembly will either approve the findings and introduce the necessary amendments or dismiss the case. This is not the duty of the cabinet. It is the duty of the People's Assembly. The representatives of the nation should decide our fate. We must not allow dishonorable emotions to again dominate our life.

I am sorry that I have been so long, but I wanted to take advantage of this issue to explain to you my full visualization of the pause we are now taking and which is a new history in every direction. I am now prepared to answer any questions.

After President as-Sadat concluded his talk about how he visualizes the upcoming phase in the wake of the referendum, his excellency conducted a dialog with the journalists and the writers.

Dr 'A'ishah 'Abd ar-Rahman, alias Bint ash-Shati', asked for permission to speak. President as-Sadat told her: Come, Dr 'A'ishah, what do you want to say? We must hear you today, Dr 'A'ishah.

Dr Bint ash-Shati' said: The first question concerns the 1919 revolution. As a popular revolution it is noble and momentous and its traditions and assets are assets for the 23 July Revolution. I hope I am safe in saying this, Mr President.

President as-Sadat: No, no, speak freely.

Bint ash-Shati': If some people or parties have flouted this revolution, this action does not diminish the 1919 revolution; never. Up to this day, we are proud of the 1919 revolution, we are proud of 'Arabi's revolution, and we are proud of all the revolutionary movements throughout our history. The period between 1919 and 1952--as his excellency the president knows and he has been a colleague of ours--was the period of revolutionary maturity, simmering, rejection and anger. Therefore, no harm will befall you if people talk about the 1919 revolution. Nor will it harm you if the 1919 revolution is misrecorded in history by those who lived it and then exploited it as a springboard for assuming the government and authority and for personal purposes.

This does not harm the revolution and it does not harm the people, the owners of the revolution, because it was not the revolution of these exploiters. It was the revolution of the people.

This is one point; the other is that his excellency the president is asking for a stock-taking of the era before 1973. I hope that this stocktaking will cover the era before 1967. However, concerning the period between 1967 and 1973, I am one of the initial rejectionists and angry persons. I found it disgraceful to go out into society, to go out into the world and to travel abroad. This was so because during that period we were unaware of what his excellency the president had been preparing for us. However, we knew that we were in constant disgrace. It should not be said that those who wrote prior to 1973 wrote as rejectionists and as angry persons feeling disgraced. That was the feeling and that was the position. We held this position until Ramadan 1973, or October 1973, when the brunt of this disgrace was removed from our shoulders and we began to live again, while before we had been rejecting life. I was the first one to reject this state of affairs; no harm has befallen us. I hope I am safe in saying this, Mr President.

The third is a question which I forgot to ask previously. You have been patient for a long time. What made you helpless, as our countrymen say? His excellency the president reproaches us because we did not speak. We were patient in the face of this departure from our traditions and values. Taken from another angle, we considered these things as a credit for the president because these things were being said, printed and published and because people were given a free hand in the era of President as-Sadat. We viewed this matter from this other viewpoint--namely, that it is a testimony to the regime and to freedom--and, also there is no harm for us in this. I assume I am safe in saying this, Mr President, and peace be with you.

President as-Sadat: Actually I am delighted. Due to Dr 'A'ishah's travels, we have not heard from her for a long time. I fully agree with what she has said, and will go even further. In other words, concerning the first point about the 1919 revolution, it is not merely the 1919 revolution, but also as she has said, the revolution of 'Arabi. Even before 'Arabi, there was the domestic construction carried out by Muhammad 'Ali. Let us set aside his foreign ambitions. However, had his domestic building continued, we would have ranked among the great states. The revolution of 'Arabi should have its place in our history. Mustafa Kamil must inevitably have his place in our history. Muhammad Farid must also have his place. He was an extremely wealthy man who gave all his wealth for the sake of Egypt. He died abroad and a merchant from Al-Mansurah went to bring his body because nobody else had the means to do this. On this occasion, I want to tell you that this incident left a permanent mark on me. As you know, I always try to spare the people from all I have undergone and suffered. Some 3 years ago, the government decided that if an Egyptian dies abroad, whether he is poor or rich, the state defrays the cost of bringing his body to Egypt to be buried in his land. The account would be settled afterward. This decision has been implemented. A princess of the former royal family, who lived all her life in Switzerland and who was a daughter of King Fu'ad, had asked to be buried in Egypt. When I heard of this, the state immediately made the necessary arrangements, brought her and buried her in the family plot.

We remember Muhammad Farid. I can even say more. I say that it is our revolution because had those who had carried it out and then exploited it kept to the right course--namely, our ultimate battle with the imperialists--we would have avoided many things and we would have now been in a different position.

Sa'd Zaghlul has his place in the 1919 revolution. Mustafa an-Nahhas made a good start as a man who went down in the annals of our history. He ended the way he did due to his circumstances, fate or whatever. We will put him in his proper place. It was Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir who made the decision to carry out the 23 July Revolution months before its scheduled date because to us and to them, the matter was one of to be or not to be. After a simple calculation, he made his decision at the time without consulting us.

After his decision, he found out that we were all rallied around him.

We will never disregard or neglect anything in our history. I support this. Regrettably, however, the matter at issue is one connected with the falsification of facts for the new generation. What is serious about this matter is that a man of 40 today was 13 or 14 years old when the revolution took place and was not aware of the situation. A man of 40 today has no concept of the state of affairs before 1952 because he was raised under the 1952 revolution. Today, a person of this age is faced with a boastful and vile campaign aimed at destroying everything in his 40 years of upbringing with concepts which have no connection at all with the facts.

This answers the third question: Why am I acting now? I am acting because I do not want our generations to enter into labyrinths and I do not want us to distort history for them and tell them that it was all milk and honey before 1952 and only myrrh and colocynth after 1952. This is a shame. Let us give every person his due and ask him to give his share and then let our future generations judge. What prompted me to refer back to the people are the violations which are aimed at turning our tranquil society into a fighting, revolutionary and bloody society by instigating the classes against each other. I want our society to be nothing other than the society of the Egyptian family which adheres to the values, principles and traditions of the village. This is all I want and I do not ask anything else. If there is anyone who can achieve this instead of me, then I declare before you, the people and the entire world that I will be the happiest man to leave for Mit Abu al-Kawm [As-Sadat's birthplace] to read and write, which I enjoyed so much in the past. This is a fact. I wish there were somebody who could relieve me of my responsibility and complete this operation. This is my only concern. I do not want to keep the generations in a state of confusion and at a loss. I do not want the youth to become hippies. I do not want the values and faith to collapse. I do not want the son to spy on his father nor do I want the father to be afraid to speak before his son lest his son report him to the party. This is what they want us to go back to.

After answering the question of Dr Bint ash-Shati', President as-Sadat invited Dr Husayn Fawzi to speak. Dr Fawzi said: My liege, the president of the republic: You are the man of peace and history. You have taught us to again appreciate our past glories. You are one of our present and future glories, God willing. It appears that this is my only opportunity to speak about a subject which I have not raised before. I was the first to criticize what was done along the Pyramids road.

It is strange that we should forget that it was King Faruq who opened the Pyramids cabarets and who helped set them up. All of us know what happened then. For 16 or 17 years I constantly criticized what was being done along the Pyramids road because this holy of holies and the road to the greatest glories has become something despicable despite all that is said about its touristic advantages.

You mentioned the Pyramids Hill story in your recent speech at the People's Assembly. I have neither discussed nor thought of this matter. I have given no attention to the question of 50 or 90 years. This is something I do not understand. However, there is a natural feeling that this project represents the completion of the misdeed carried out along the Pyramids road because it will be established at a distance of 2,000 meters to the south or west of the Pyramid. I have been encouraged by your statement today and your speech at the People's Assembly in which you said that the matter is being left to a respectable committee and that we are awaiting its opinion. However, this is my only opportunity to see my work bear fruit because the decisions of such a committee will save our ancient history from the threat it might be facing at a distance of 2,000 meters to the south or west of the Pyramid. Why not establish this project at a distance of 20 kilometers? I submit to you this petition. May God prolong your glory and life, and help you in your peace efforts.

Answering Dr Husayn Fawzi, President as-Sadat said: I have asked the prime minister to deal with this and other matters. I raised this matter as an example to point out that the factors governing democratic conduct in the past must not govern our present conduct. We must not assume that all the officials take bribes, steal or have vested interests. This is absolutely untrue. Nobody can dictate his decisions to us or make us approve something which we do not want or do not believe will benefit us as a people. The proof of this is the fact that articles and books have been written on this subject but nobody's freedom has been suppressed. There is the book which has been written by the lawyers association. This is sufficient proof that nobody has an interest in accepting something which we or our people do not want. Why? It is because we are the masters of our fate and nobody is our guardian.

I cite this as an exmaple of why we object to the conduct of some people who get emotional and say that our heritage will be tarnished. Who can tarnish our heritage? Nobody. I am saying this because there have been fears that the freedom of Egypt and its will might be undermined. I called the [ASU] Supreme Committee to this hall and told its members: I told them in Moscow that the decision lies with Egypt and me and not with Moscow. I then expelled 17,000 experts in 1 week. This shows that we are clear in this regard. All I ask is that we be less frantic in our democratic conduct and discharge our affairs according to what we want and feel. Our decision, as I have already said, is in our hands and not in the hands of anybody else.

I can see that I have tired you. I am happy to have attended this session. I wish my talk and my dialog with you had not been so long. However, I promise to hold periodic sessions with you to exchange views. We will devote each session to one subject. Our writers, intellectuals and others will participate.

I want to sum up the referendum in a few words. I say that the rule belongs to the people and not to any individual, regardless of his position. The decision is for the millions. There will be no domination by any faction or class. The rule will be exercised by the state of institutions along the path of 23 July, 15 May, 6 October and 14 May 1978. The institutions are sheltered by the permanent constitution. There will be no infringement whatsoever of the three main powers in the state: the executive, legislative and judicial powers. We are in the process of establishing the fourth power--the press. I want you to prepare yourselves for a session during which we will reach an understanding on the power of the press as a fourth power in the state.

I will add that Egypt will not abandon its security or safety. We will not leave our decisions in Egypt to a stray and subversive faction or to those who butchered the freedom and dignity of man in the past and who are now trying to attack the present regime through destruction, doubts and distortion at a time when the present regime has shown them love and forgiveness and wanted them to start a new page.

I will end by saying: The people are the master. The divine law is the light and guide of all the faithful. Egypt will remain above the outbiddings of the merchants. The law will remain the shield of the ruler and the weapon of the ruled. May God grant you success and God's peace and blessings be with you.

AUTHORITIES CONFISCATE OPPOSITION PAPER AL-AHALI

NC2406 51Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0634 GMT 24 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 May--The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports today that the State Security Intelligence Department has seized the 17th edition of AL-AHALI newspaper for containing inflammatory and hostile articles. The edition was scheduled for publication today.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the matter has been presented to the public prosecution, which has agreed that this edition of AL-AHALI should be withheld. A hearing has been fixed for 0300 today to consider the case.

OPPOSITION PARTY MAKES STATEMENT ON REFERENDUM

LD231832Y Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 22 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] The General Secretariat of the National Progressive Unionists Grouping [NPUG] Party issued a long statement declaring that the implementation of the measures contained in the president's speech to the People's Assembly on 14 May is an abandonment of the democratic evolution which the country has been experiencing in the recent past.

The statement said that the referendum involves several constitutional violations and undermines the security of citizens and the community as a whole.

In its statement the Leftist Party rejected the referendum of the citizens regarding the attitude of politicians who were members of parties that existed before the revolution, because the result would mean taking exceptional measures against them and going back once again to the policy of political isolation.

The Leftist Party also rejected the referendum regarding those citizens against whom sentences were passed in the 1971 case involving the centers of power, because it would mean adding a new penalty against them without trial.

The Leftist Party also rejected the referendum because it would give the socialist attorney general the powers of the judiciary authority and the public prosecution contrary to Article 179 of the constitution.

The Leftist Party said in its statement that outwardly the referendum expresses the will of the people, while actually it means giving the administration machinery extraordinary powers.

The Leftist Party concludes its statement by urging the constitutional institutions, political parties, trade unions and public figures to reject the referendum. It says: "If victims began to fall, and if the turn of any of you comes to fall, he should only blame himself."

AL-AHRAR REGRETS SEIZURE OF LEFTIST PAPER

LD231833Y Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 22 May 78 p 1 LD

[Text] The newspaper AL-AHRAR regrets the failure of the newspaper AL-AHALI to appear last Wednesday because of the measures to seize it which were upheld by the court.

Despite the great differences of opinion between us and the AL-AHALI and the party that publishes it, we would like to see it again on Wednesday morning as an opposition paper conforming with constitutional legitimacy and the rule of the law.

Although we completely disagree with AL-AHALI, the policy it has been pursuing and its publication of inflammatory articles under pseudonyms, which is entirely inconsistent with modern journalism--all of which we have no time to discuss here today--we sincerely hope that it will return to us every Wednesday morning as a mature opposition paper that will find us all--including the law--ready to support it, protect it and be with it and not against it.

ZAIRIAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH LETTER FOR AS-SADAT

NC231900Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1748 GMT 23 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 23 May--Ambassador (Lengima Dulia), the emissary of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a several days' visit to Egypt.

The ambassador said on arrival at Cairo airport that he has a letter for President as-Sadat from President Mobutu pertaining to the current situation in Shaba. He also said that he has handed a similar letter to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri and that he will deliver another letter to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba after his visit to Cairo ends.

CHAIRMAN OF AL-AHRAM ESTABLISHMENT APPOINTED

NC240640Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0619 GMT 24 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 May--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports today that President Anwar as-Sadat, in his capacity as head of the ASU, has issued a decree appointing AL-AHRAM Chief Editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal as chairman of the Board of Directors of the AL-AHRAM establishment to replace the late Yusuf as-Siba'i.

SOVIET UNION ADVISED AGAINST ERITREA INVOLVEMENT

LD231035Y Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Arabic 20 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] An official Iraqi source has told AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI that Baghdad has advised Cuba and the Soviet Union against military involvement on the side of Ethiopia in any attack against Eritrean rebels. The source said the "advice" was earlier conveyed to Moscow and Havana and was newly reiterated due to increasing reports about Ethiopia's military preparations to attack the Eritrean rebels and crush them.

The source added that Iraq fully supports the peaceful settlement of the Eritrean problem with a view to insuring the Eritrean people's right to self-determination. The source said Iraqi officials deal with Eritrea as if it were an independent state and that they give military, material and political support to the Eritrean rebels.

EGYPT DEPORTS ARAB STUDENTS CRITICAL OF REGIME

JN231948Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May--The authorities of As-Sadat's regime have deported more Arab students studying in Egypt because of their condemnation of As-Sadat's policy of capitulation to the Zionist enemy.

In statements made upon their arrival in Baghdad today, four Palestinian students who had been studying in the Egyptian university of Az-Zaqaziq said that the As-Sadat authorities arrested them at the beginning of this month, put them in the Al-Qal'ah Prison and tortured them before their deportation.

TRANSPORT MINISTER LEAVES FOR MOSCOW DISCUSSIONS

JN240834Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 24 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 May--Transport Minister Mukarram Jamal left for Moscow today at the head of a delegation on a 1-week visit to the Soviet Union. The delegation will discuss with Soviet officials cooperation in the field of transport between the Soviet Union and Iraq. The delegation includes the heads of the general establishments of railways and river transport, and of the Department of Studies, Designs and Major Projects of the Transport Ministry.

OIL MINISTER RETURNS FROM MOSCOW, MAKES STATEMENT

JN181402Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1305 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, member of the Revolution Command Council and oil minister, returned here today from Moscow after signing the minutes of the meetings of the eighth session of the joint Iraqi-Soviet committee for economic and technical cooperation.

Speaking to INA upon his arrival, 'Abd al-Karim said that the joint committee formed seven subcommittees to discuss the expansion of the scope of cooperation in the economic and technical fields in light of the existing relations between the two friendly countries.

'Abd al-Karim pointed out that the atmosphere of the talks was permeated by the spirit of and the sincere desire for cooperation for the sake of mutual interests and benefits. The talks were characterized by the spirit of existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries, he added.

The subcommittees began their work in Moscow last Thursday to discuss the items on the agenda which included cooperation in the oil, agricultural and irrigational fields as well as the training of cadres.

HEALTH MINISTER RETURNS FROM WHO MEETING IN GENEVA

JN200735Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0728 GMT 20 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 20 May--Health Minister Dr Riyad Ibrahim Husayn returned to Baghdad early this morning after heading the Iraqi delegation to the 31st WHO session, which is convening in Geneva.

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER RALLIS CONCLUDES VISIT

JN221558Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May--Yeoryios Rallis, Greek minister of foreign affairs, and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad today following a 3-day visit to Iraq.

In a predeparture statement, Rallis described Iraqi-Greek relations as excellent. He added that he held talks with Iraqi officials on the means to consolidate the relations between the two countries in a manner to serve their common interest.

Rallis was seen off by the foreign minister, Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, and a number of officials.

SADDAM HUSAYN CONGRATULATES YUGOSLAVIA'S DJURANOVIC

JN221255Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, has sent a congratulatory cable to Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, on his reelection. The following is the text of the cable:

It gives me pleasure to congratulate your excellency on your reelection as president of the Federal Executive Council. I wish your excellency continued good health and happiness and the friendly people of Yugoslavia, progress and prosperity. I hope for continued development of the relations between our countries.

RCC VICE CHAIRMAN RECEIVES CABLE FROM PRC LEADER

JN231117Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 May--Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, has received a thank-you cable from PRC Premier Hua Kuo-feng in answer to the cable which the vice chairman sent congratulating him on his new post.

The following is text of the cable: I cordially thank your excellency for the congratulatory cable you sent on the occasion of my appointment as premier of the PRC State Council. I hope that the existing friendly relations between our two countries will develop further.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS NEWSPAPER AD-DUSTUR

JN221555Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1542 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 22 May--The Jordanian Government has decided to suspend the newspaper AD-DUSTUR for 4 days, as of tomorrow, for publishing news harmful to the public interest.

SPOKESMAN DENIES REPORTED AMNESTY FOR PRISONERS

JN221554Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 22 May--An official spokesman has denied a report published in the 22 May issue of the newspaper AD-DUSTUR stating that a general amnesty for prisoners will be issued in the next few days. The spokesman said that this report is baseless and groundless.

HUSAYN RETURNS HOME FOLLOWING VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

JN221134Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman this afternoon following a 3-day visit to Saudi Arabia during which he held talks with His Royal Highness Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, on the Arab efforts aimed at achieving Arab accord and solidarity and at facing the issue of the occupation of Arab territories and the Palestinian question with a unified Arab stand. Talks were also held on ways of promoting fraternal relations and joint cooperation between the two fraternal kingdoms.

His majesty the king was received by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the Senate president, the commander in chief of the armed forces, the ministers, several high-ranking officials and the Saudi charge d'affaires in Amman.

PRINCE HASAN LEAVES FOR POLAND, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND

JN230931Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Her Highness Princess Tharwat left Amman this morning on an official visit to the Polish People's Republic at the invitation of the Polish State Council. The visit will last several days, and his highness will discuss economic and technical cooperation between the two countries.

His highness will also pay a 1-day visit to the Austrian capital at the invitation of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. His highness will also make the opening speech at the Arab-European Symposium for Trade Cooperation which is to be held in Montreux, Switzerland.

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER IN CHIEF RETURNS FROM AUSTRIA

JN221017Y Amman JNA in Arabic 0910 GMT 22 May 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 22 May--Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir and the military delegation accompanying him returned to Amman yesterday evening from Austria after a visit of several days in response to an invitation from the Austrian defense minister.

BUTRUS DISCUSSES CURRENT ISSUES, VISIT TO SYRIA

NC231957Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 May 78 NC

[Text] Minister Butrus met today with the radio correspondent and answered questions on the implementation of the UN resolution, the Cairo Agreement, the outcome of his visit to Damascus, the forthcoming meeting between President Sarkis and al-Asad and on the dispatching of the Lebanese Army to some regions on security missions.

Minister Butrus began his statement by saying: UN Resolution 425 must be implemented without any obstruction or objection from anyone. He added that what is important now is that there be no interest in obstructing the UNIFIL's mission in the south for any reason whatever. Minister Butrus wondered whether any party has an interest in obstructing the mission of these forces, adding: I say utterly none, and that whoever obstructs the implementation of Resolution 425 will be harming Lebanon, the Arabs and the Palestinians and will be serving Israel's interests, because Israel will be the only beneficiary of the obstruction of the resolution's implementation. We reject anything that constitutes an obstruction to the implementation of the resolution. This is the state's position.

On Lebanon's position regarding the Cairo agreement, Minister Butrus said: This position will be adopted when the need arises. The implementation of Resolution 425 is not affected by any agreement.

The radio reporters asked Minister Butrus whether his visit to Damascus achieved its expected aim.

He replied: [begin recording] The aim of a meeting with the Syrian brothers is very broad and comprehensive. Judging by its results, the visit was successful and positive. Like any other visit under current circumstances, it cannot insure the realization of all aims, because these aims are numerous, complicated and, sometimes, difficult. Therefore, one visit cannot solve all problems, to say nothing of the fact that many of the topics we discussed do not fall within the realm of a Lebanese-Syrian agreement only because there are other factors which influence their solutions.

[Question] Your excellency, can we possibly know what were the most important positive results of this visit?

[Answer] I am in no position to enter into details concerning the results of the visit, for several reasons, the first being that some matters are still under discussion and, second; because of the forthcoming visit by his excellency the president to Damascus. Naturally, the talks that were held should be crowned with a top-level agreement between the Lebanese and Syrian presidents. However, I reiterate that the visit was successful, positive and beneficial and that there are several matters which must be pursued in view of the current circumstances and because of possible developments.

[Question] Your excellency, will there be any coordination or common diplomatic moves between Lebanon and Syria regarding the developments?

[Answer] Lebanese moves on the diplomatic level have been going on for some time, as you know. Naturally, coordination between the Lebanese and the Syrian Foreign Ministries is reflected in the diplomatic efforts which can be exerted by the representatives of Syria and Lebanon on matters of mutual concern and interest.

[Question] Your excellency, as a result of the recent discussions with Dr Waldheim's envoy to Lebanon, has the Lebanese Government decided to send units of the Lebanese Army into the south?

[Answer] No decision has yet been made on this matter. As you know, the Lebanese Government did not meet after the visit of Dr Waldheim's representative in Beirut. The dispatch of the army into the south and the manner of its entry there and other things are subjects which, no doubt, must be tackled by the Lebanese Government with the precise attention they merit.

[Question] Your excellency, is there any truth to the persistent reports lately that Lebanese Army members will join the Arab deterrent forces?

[Answer] These reports do not say that. As far as I know, what is contained in these reports indicates otherwise. They say it is possible that the Lebanese security forces or the Lebanese Army forces will gradually take over security missions in some areas dealing directly with the citizens and that the Arab deterrent forces will assume a backup role whenever necessary. This is what the reports say and it is from this angle that matters can be viewed in the future.

[Question] Your excellency, have you been notified of the latest results of Mr Guyer's discussions in the region?

[Answer] I was not officially notified of the results of Mr Guyer's meetings with the Israeli officials, apart from what was mentioned about them in the newspapers. But I was notified about his discussions with the other parties.

[Question] Will the UNIFIL assume any new role in Lebanon?

[Answer] I am not qualified to answer this question.

SYRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER INSPECTS SYRIAN UNIT IN LEBANON

JN231737Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Upon the instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, the commander in chief of the army and armed forces, Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister, has visited one of our combat units operating within the Arab deterrent forces in fraternal Lebanon. General Talas was accompanied by a number of senior commanders in the general command of the army and armed forces.

At the outset of his improvised speech, General Talas conveyed the greetings of struggler President Hafiz al-Asad to his valiant soldiers, for whom the president has great love and concern because of their efforts and continued struggle to manifest the pan-Arab and humanistic concepts of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

General Talas then dealt with political events in the area. He explained the plots that are being concocted against the march of the Arab nation in its liberation struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He also explained the treacherous role that has been played by the head of the Egyptian regime in alliance with U.S. imperialism and Zionism ever since his visit to occupied Jerusalem, when he stabbed the unity of the Arab ranks and began peddling the plots that are being hatched by the enemies of our Arab nation.

General Talas then spoke about the bloody events in fraternal Lebanon aimed against the unity of the Lebanese people and territory. He said that Zionism and imperialism had struck against our Arab people in Lebanon, causing concern to Syria and involving it in a peripheral battle.

General Talas also pointed out the Syrian forces' role in confronting this plot and how these forces had managed to restore peace and security to fraternal Lebanon through the bold initiative of President Hafiz al-Asad, which had ended the ordeal and the massacre in Lebanon.

General Talas said: We firmly support and back the legitimate authority represented by President Ilyas Sarkis. We will give every means of support to our brothers in Lebanon in the future just as we have in the past for the sake of establishing security and peace in Lebanon's good land.

General Talas condemned the forces which are trying to sow disturbances and create sedition. He said: We will strike at these forces with a fist of iron and we will consider them involved in this plot alongside the Zionist enemy. Our sole objective is to consolidate the march of security, stability and peace in Lebanon and to insure the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from southern Lebanon.

In conclusion, General Talas lauded the high morals of the fighters. He wished them success in their mission for the sake of restoring peace and security to fraternal Lebanon.

General Talas left the unit's headquarters to the same warm reception he had received upon arrival.

NATIONALIST MOVEMENT REJECTS UNIFIL 'INTERFERENCE' IN LEBANON

JN232027Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1952 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 23 May--The Lebanese Nationalist Movement has expressed its unwavering rejection of any UNIFIL interference in Lebanon's internal affairs and in the existing agreements between the Lebanese State and the PLO. In a statement issued this evening by the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Progressive and Nationalist Forces, the movement said that the new interpretations of the UN Security Council resolution represent submission to the demands of the Zionist enemy and protection of the enemy's aggressive designs. The statement criticized the stand of the official Lebanese authorities on the issue of southern Lebanon, and said that this stand is a continuous response to the pressures and demands of the Lebanese rightist front.

The statement reiterated its firm stand on the establishment of a balanced Lebanese national army. The statement said that the increasing calls for sending some army units to the south is a clear attempt at political and communal blackmail. It would not be in the interest of Lebanon and its Arabism, the statement added.

BAGHDAD: PHALANGISTS KILL SIX GUARDS OF THE CEDAR

JN231630Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut--Tension prevails in Al-Batrun area, a suburb of Beirut, following the death of six members of the rightwing Guards of the Cedar group. Reports from Beirut say that the killing of the six members of the Guards of the Cedar group took place as part of a campaign of assassination and liquidation between Guards of the Cedar and the rightwing Phalangist Party. The incident took place when a car [words indistinct] and unknown persons inside the car opened fire on customers at a coffee shop.

WORLD YOUTH SYMPOSIUM OPENS IN DAMASCUS

JN201655Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, a students symposium organized by the Syrian National Student Federation, the Palestinian Students Federation and the International Student Federation was opened in Damascus today. The symposium is being held under the slogan: The role of the world student movement in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and racism, for national liberation, economic stability and social progress and for the solidarity of struggle with the Arab liberation movement.

Comrade Mahmud az-Zu'bi, candidate member of the Regional Command and chief of the students regional bureau, represented the president.

Holds Rally

JN240818Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 May 78 JN

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the republic, a rally in solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and their armed revolution was held yesterday at the Engineering College of Damascus University. The rally was organized by the Syrian National Student Federation in cooperation with the Executive Committee of the Palestinian Students Federation and the Secretariat of the International Students Federation. The rally concludes the world youth symposium held in Damascus. Comrade Sami al-'Attari, member of the Ba'th Party National Command and head of the Fedayeen Action Office, represented the president at the rally.

The heads of the friendly delegations participating in the symposium made speeches of support in which they expressed their countries' and peoples' support for the Palestinian Arab people's struggle and armed revolution and for the PLO.

Brother 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, member of the PLO Executive Committee, made a speech in which he praised this brotherly meeting and the speeches given by the various speakers. He said: This warm support makes us feel proud and prompts us to fight determinedly for victory. It also makes us feel that we are not alone in the battle, but are supported by all freedom- and peace-loving peoples.

Abu Mayzar praised the support which Syria is giving the Palestinian revolution and the resistance movement. He condemned As-Sadat's treasonous trip to Jerusalem and his capitulationist line, a line which aims at undermining the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and eliminating the Palestine question.

Comrade Sami al-'Attari, representative of the president, then delivered the speech of the Ba'th party. He began by conveying the greetings of leader President Hafiz al-Asad and the party National Command to the representatives of the world youth movement participating in the world youth symposium. Al-'Attari said: The symposium and this rally are steps in the long course of struggle in which all the righteous vanguards of the world youth are participating. It is a great honor to Syria for these steps to take place in Damascus.

Al-'Attari said: The Syrian citizen considers Palestine as southern Syria; the Palestinian citizen considers Syria as northern Palestine. Both of them believe that Palestine and Syria are part of one homeland. The false borders established by the Sykes-Picot agreement on the map of this area are no longer acceptable.

Therefore, the question of Palestine is strictly a Syrian issue and an Arab security issue. To us the struggle to liberate Palestine is a domestic and Arab national commitment of our people and nation. It is an integral part of the basic structure of our principles and objectives.

Comrade al-'Attari then spoke about As-Sadat's shameful trip to occupied Palestine, the action by the imperialist and Zionist circles to explode the Lebanese crisis, and the Ba'th strategy in facing these new challenges and the pressures being exerted to cow the Arab will.

Concluding his speech, Comrade Sami al-'Attari expressed the thanks of Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, and the party National Command to the International Students Federation, the Palestinian Students Federation and the Syrian National Students Federation for organizing the world youth symposium.

Addressed by Khaddam

JN240727Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 May 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, yesterday afternoon met with the delegations participating in the world youth symposium which concluded its work yesterday. Addressing the delegations, Khaddam stressed that Syria, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party, will continue the struggle to guarantee the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and to liberate the occupied Arab territory. There will be no peace and stability in the region, he added, as long as Arab territories are occupied, people are expelled from their homes and the Arab nation is being attacked.

Speaking about the objectives of the American-Israeli-Egyptian alliance in the region, Khaddam said: The United States aims at dominating the Middle East, using Egypt--an Arab-African state--to strike at the liberation and progressive forces in the region and in Africa. On the other hand, Israel aims at keeping Egypt out of the Arab-Israeli conflict and creating a state of fragmentation and division in the Arab homeland.

Khaddam continued: To cover up As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem and his capitulationist line, those implementing the plan encouraged Israel to attack southern Lebanon and occupy parts of that area. The primary and direct aim of that aggression was to strike at the Palestinian resistance and push it northward so it would be confined to a small area, thereby creating the circumstances for renewed internal hostilities in Lebanon. This would finalize the plan to end the Palestinian revolution in the current Middle East conflict. Khaddam added: This plan also aims at striking at the steadfast front made up of several Arab states and the PLO by using a secondary problem to distract Syria and the PLO from the main issue, which calls for the pooling of all efforts and resources. The plan also aims at striking at Syria--the remaining base of confrontation against this plan in view of Syria's geographic and national Arab position--by involving Syria in an armed clash with Israel in Lebanon leading to serious consequences.

Khaddam affirmed that Syria has assumed its national Arab responsibilities regarding the aggression against southern Lebanon. It gave the Palestinian resistance as much aid as it could absorb. Instructions were also given to the Arab deterrent forces stationed on five-sixths of the area of Lebanon to fight and clash with the Israel Air Force. A Syrian Air Force unit was also placed at the disposal of the Arab deterrent forces in Lebanon.

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID REJECTS MOBUTU'S ALLEGATIONS OF ALGERIAN INTERFERENCE

LD231450Y Algiers APS in French 0900 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, 23 May--Under the title "A challenge", Tuesday's issue of EL MOUDJAHID deals with the allegations made by the Kinshasa regime of Algerian interference in the affairs of Zaire. The paper deals first with the objective conditions of the popular uprising in Shaba. It is not revealing anything new to say that the Mobutu regime has led Zaire to bankruptcy. One of the richest countries of our continent, a true reservoir of many precious resources, has been exposed to pillage by the multinationals, by a system whose principal characteristic is corruption, while all the people of Zaire have become poorer, with the exception of a small clique whose foreign bank accounts get fatter all the time. Given these circumstances, it is not surprising that the Mobutu regime is more than shaky and that popular uprisings, like the one which has just taken place in Shaba, occur periodically. Despite notoriously ferocious repression, the Kinshasa authorities, more and more isolated from the people, show ever-increasing impotence before the anger and discontent of the masses. The authorities are reduced, as has just been shown in Shaba, to calling on foreign forces in order to gain a reprieve in the absence of any assurance that they will be able to maintain themselves in power for much longer.

From this stems the need for General Mobutu to make allegations and concoct pretexts to justify resorting to the use of foreign repressive forces against the Zairian people. A transparent pretext, continues EL MOUDJAHID, is the false accusation leveled against certain countries, notably against Algeria, of "interference" in the internal conflict in Zaire, much evidence of which has already proved to be a lie. For our part, we publicly challenge General Mobutu, either him or his "worthy advisers" who have encouraged him to such ineptitude, to give proof of any such interference, whether direct or indirect, by our country into the affairs of Zaire, and more precisely in the popular uprising in Shaba.

After the insulting and noisy statements that have been made against Algeria we are of the opinion that he has purely and simply lost his senses under the pressure of events which have once again failed to put an end to his reign. Algeria is all the better placed to throw down this challenge, because if there is effective foreign interference in the affairs of the Zairian people, it is well and truly that which General Mobutu himself has initiated by calling to his aid the paratroops and legionnaires of the West.

It is General Mobutu's own hands that he must look at when he speaks of the blood of the innocent victims of Kolwezi, concludes the national Algerian daily.

LIBYA

JORDAN, LIBYA AGREE ON ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

LD240630Y Tripoli JANA in English 1404 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Summary] Tripoli, May 23, JANA--A protocol of strengthening cooperation between the two brotherly peoples of the Jamahiriyah and Jordan was signed yesterday. The protocol aims at developing cooperation in the economic, scientific and technical fields. Mr Muhammad Rajab, the treasury secretary, and Mr Muhammad ad-Dabbas, the Jordanian minister of finance, have signed the agreement for the two sides.

Jordanian Finance Minister Leaves

LD240012Y Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 23, JANA--Mr Muhammad ad-Dabbas, the Jordanian minister of finance, left Tripoli this morning after a short visit. He was seen off by Mr Muhammad az-Zarruq Rajab, the treasury secretary.

LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI

LD240914Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 May 78 LD

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party in Lebanon, arrived in Tripoli this evening at the head of a delegation of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. Junblatt hailed the positive Arab and international role being played by the Jamahiriyah in supporting the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and in backing liberation movements around the world. In a statement to JANA he said that his visit falls within the framework of fraternal contacts. Its purpose is to discuss the latest developments in the Arab arena, particularly the worsening situation in southern Lebanon.

SUDAN

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH USSR, ETHIOPIA

LD231110Y Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI in Arabic 20 May 78 p 6 LD

[Interview granted by Sudanese Culture and Information Minister Bona Malwal to AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI correspondent Huda al-Husayni in Paris, during stopover en route to Dakar to attend African cultural ministers conference]

[Excerpt] [Question] Do you expect an Arab summit conference to be convened?

[Answer] There is no room for expectations as long as differences continue. But let us hope that differences will be settled and the conference is held. If the conference helps settle differences, well and good.

[Question] What is the significance of the Soviet ambassador's return to Khartoum?

[Answer] There was no break in relations between the two countries. The Soviets withdrew their ambassador from Khartoum when Sudan declared its decision to terminate the services of Soviet military advisers. This decision has made for established reasons and objectives. The Soviet Union had stopped its military aid to Sudan several years before this decision. Moscow also refused to give us spare parts for the old Soviet weapons we had. Consequently, there was no work for the Soviet advisers, who had to go back to their country. Our decision was made for this reason, but the Soviet Union was not pleased with it and, therefore, decided to recall its ambassador. Now they have decided to return him.

As for President Numayri visiting Moscow, there are certain conditions that must be fulfilled before such a visit can take place, including an invitation to the president from the president of the Soviet Union. Should such an invitation be received, I believe it would be given due consideration. Personally I see no objection to President Numayri visiting the Soviet Union, should he be invited.

[Question] Recently President Numayri and Somali President Siad Barre met in Cairo.

[Answer] Their meeting is not surprising. We and Somalia are two countries whose destiny is linked to the Horn of Africa. Because Sudan will play host to the African summit conference, the two presidents must have discussed African as well as Arab affairs.

As for military support for Somalia, Sudan is not a sufficiently major military or economic power to be able to provide it. But Sudan is always interested in Somalia's affairs in general and we have a special sympathy for Somalia. However, I cannot say that we have given it military support because we are not capable of doing so and the Somalis understand this.

Sudan wishes all Arab and African problems to be settled peacefully. Despite Sudan's realization of Somalia's fate in Ogaden, it has always insisted on a peaceful solution. It is not necessary for one state to adopt the views of another just because their relations are good.

[Question] We have heard that relations between Sudan and Ethiopia have not improved.

[Answer] Nevertheless, the dialog is continuing. Even when relations were tense the Ethiopian ambassador remained at his post in Khartoum. At one time we summoned our ambassador for consultations and he remained in Khartoum for some time, but the situation did not reach the point of breaking relations and the dialog is continuing.

[Question] Will this dialog lead to a visit to Ethiopia by Sudanese Vice President 'Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim?

[Answer] Contacts about this are currently taking place. In order for the visit to take place we must first agree on a certain basis. Sudan adheres to two points. First, it wishes Ethiopia to declare its desire to solve its domestic problems peacefully, that is, without a military victory for either party, especially since everyone knows that there are large numbers of foreign forces in Ethiopia. Ethiopia is an independent state which gained its independence through the struggle of the members of all its communities. Therefore, it should not be proud of the presence of the forces of other countries on its soil. Currently Sudan is trying to find a peaceful solution for the Eritrean problem, which it considers a just cause. If Ethiopia recognizes the justice of this cause it will be possible for it to achieve national unity. Moreover, military defeat will not solve the problem. Even if Ethiopia wins, the Eritrean people will continue to feel that they have been wronged and that they have been deprived of participation in governing their country.

Second, Sudan has no confidence in the good will of the foreign troops in Ethiopia. Of course, we mean the Soviet Union. This is because we feel that Moscow's presence in Ethiopia is not the solution to the country's domestic problems, nor will it preserve the country's independence. Rather we feel that this is an attempt by a foreign power to dominate the area. It is our right to remain independent and free states and to solve our own problems.

Perhaps this fear is just based on imagination but there is a reason for it. Ethiopia must remove this fear, whether the basis for it is real or imaginary.

QATARI MILITARY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM

JN231423Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 23 May 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 23 May--A Qatari military delegation under Staff Lt Col Shaykh Mubarak ibn 'Abd ar-Rahman Al Thani arrived in Khartoum today to participate in the celebrations marking the ninth anniversary of the revolution. Shaykh Mubarak lauded the strong fraternal relations linking the Qatari and Sudanese people and said that the two peoples are looking forward to further cooperation and to the consolidation of relations for the good of the two peoples and the Arab nation.

TUNISIA

COMMENTARY VIEWS AFRICAN RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOREIGN INTERVENTION

LD231545Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 16 May 78 p 1 LD

[By Moncef Chilhi]

[Text] Shaba is in the news again. Africa could well have done without this new center of tension which, in addition to the traditional centers of conflagration such as Chad and Western Sahara, continues to arouse the legitimate concern of Africans and their friends.

Apart from a few gray areas, the game on the African political chessboard is not too confused, despite the complexity of the interferences. First, certain hegemonic powers have taken advantage of the difficulties experienced by some African countries to use these countries as their special tools to penetrate Africa and gain control over its resources. By doing this they are acquiring a de facto "right" to intervene in the domestic affairs of these countries.

This said, the African countries concerned bear their share of responsibility for these painful events which continue to shake our continent periodically. Obviously no power in the world could arrogate to itself the right to intervene in Africa with impunity if African countries themselves had created the necessary conditions for preserving their sovereignty and territorial integrity. One is inclined to ask whether the leaders of these African countries are sufficiently experienced politically and sufficiently aware of their duties to place their nations' superior interests above any other considerations, interests in support of which thousands of martyrs have, after all, been killed in action. It is at the price of the blood shed by these martyrs that Africans have been able to achieve independence. Unfortunately, not all of them have been able to make use of their independence equally well. The conflagration which has continued to set certain regions of our continent aflame is a sad example of this.

It is shocking, to say the least, that national energies are continually being wasted in internal conflicts as disastrous as they are pointless in a situation where demands in the economic and social spheres are becoming increasingly pressing, to the great satisfaction of the enemies of Africa and its independence.

CONTROVERSY OVER W. BANK LAND APPROPRIATIONS CONTINUES

Weizman Denies Reports

TA231345Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman appeared today before the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee and was asked about the issues of settlement policy and the well-known harassment affair. Our Knesset correspondent Razi Barkay reports:

In the course of the session, the defense minister totally denied reports of appropriations of land in Judaea and Samaria and said that there is no change in the status of the lands belonging to absentee owners in the territories. Mr Weizman said this in reply to questions from various Knesset members, who were basing their information on reports that have appeared in the press over the last few days. Another partner to these remarks was the coordinator of activity in the territories, Maj Gen Avraham Orly, who was present during part of the meeting. Severe criticism was expressed in the committee by MK Yosef Tamir, who is actually a member of the Likud. Why do we not hear the cabinet's voice, he asked. Why are there publications and no official reaction? [begin recording]

[Tamir] I have learned that, in fact, it is as though there are three cabinets ruling in the country instead of one: One is the legal, authorized cabinet, the second is a rightist group that is disrupting the logical processes of the cabinet policy and the third group is the left, which foils the cabinet by blowing up baseless reports that are very well absorbed by the press and the communications media and, spread beyond Israel's border, create unnecessary complications.

[Question] Is the cabinet's task to authorize or deny the published reports at once?

[Answer] Not only that. In my view, and I said so during the committee's meeting, the cabinet must, first of all, make clear decisions, present them to the public and give them publicity. Then it will not be possible to complain about a policy which is not clear enough. [end recording]

By the way, after Yosef Tamir said at the committee that there were three cabinets in control now, not one, MK Moshe Shamir called to him: In fact, there are four cabinets because the press, radio and television are a cabinet of their own.

The committee dealt with two other issues: It was given a report on the completion of the withdrawal from southern Lebanon and, on this matter, the defense minister said that the good fence will continue to work even after the evacuation of forces. And, on the matter of the harassment in the IDF, various members of the Knesset repeated their questions, and the defense minister repeated his reply: We will settle accounts with the guilty. All the complaints are now being reinvestigated and even if the person responsible for the acts received a punishment of only 28 days conditional imprisonment, we will renew the investigation with all the legal material. These were the remarks by the minister of defense today in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee.

Land Authority Denies Involvement

TA231754Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon and the head of Israel's Land Authority, Ya'aqov 'Aqnin, this afternoon denied reports that they had been involved in the subject of lands or assets of absentees in Judaea and Samaria.

The denial communique says that the sole responsibility for any change of policy in the subject of absentee assets in Judaea and Samaria is in the hands of the military government and of the Defense Ministry.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer says that the Land Authority has purchased and still purchases land in Judaea and Samaria, despite the formal responsibility being in the hands of the military government.

Our correspondent also says that reports regarding appropriation of land for settlements in the West Bank are derived solely from the instruction released by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori to examine the possibility of appropriating government land, and that expropriation of thousands of dunams had never been discussed.

The Defense Ministry spokesman stressed this evening that the appropriation of lands and matters of settlement in Judaea and Samaria are the authority of the government and the Defense Ministry has no plans of its own on these issues. The spokesman noted that there is no basis to the reports that the Defense Ministry is planning the appropriation of thousands of dunams in the West Bank for the purpose of establishing settlements.

The political secretary of Gush Emunim, Gershon Shafat, said that the reports on this subject are probably from sources interested in undermining settlement in the West Bank. He expressed hope that the cabinet will gird its loins and do what is expected of it on the subject of settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

Bethlehem Mayor Protests

TA231252Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[Text] Mayor of Bethlehem Elyas Frayj has called on the minister of defense to appoint a committee to get at the truth in the affair of the property which has been appropriated in the area. Today there was a meeting in the municipality building of several of the town's inhabitants. They say that the person in charge of the appropriated property refuses to recognize their powers of attorney despite the fact that he had recognized them before. The reference is to powers of attorney from relatives living in the West authorizing them to administer their property.

Our correspondent reports that the person in charge had indeed not recognized dozens of such powers of attorney submitted to him over the last 4 months. The military government told our correspondent that they knew nothing of any change in policy and that an officer had already been appointed to investigate the affair.

Documents To Be Honored

TA232120Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[Text] As of tomorrow morning, the office of the custodian of absentee property in Bethlehem will again honor the documents of authorization that former residents of Bethlehem left with relatives to administer their assets. This has been communicated by the director of the custodian's office in Bethlehem to the major, Elias Frayj. Thus, the affair will probably be closed.

Our correspondent says that the affair apparently started when fake authorizations appeared, especially in East Jerusalem, and consequently instructions were issued to examine them scrupulously. The lands authority personnel had exaggerated to the point of refusing to honor them altogether. The military government has known, at least since last April, about what was happening but chose not to become involved.

Justice Ministry Statement

TA231040Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[Text] The Ministry of Justice says that it has not yet determined its reaction to the appeal to the Supreme Court on the matter of the settlement in the region of An-Nabi Salih. The ministry spokesman said that the staff has not yet finished studying the facts involved in the affair and so no decision has been made. The spokesman denied that there have been consultations in the top ranks of the Ministry of Justice on this issue.

Earlier, our correspondent reported that there were consultations in the Ministry of Justice this morning regarding the claim to be put forward by the state attorney to justify the appropriation of land in An-Nabi Salih. Legal experts from the security establishment also attended the consultations. As far as can be seen, the attorney's office will claim that security settlement in the territories is a kind of military need and that international law permits the appropriation of land for military requirements.

REPORTAGE ON ACTIVITIES CONCERNING VARIOUS SETTLEMENTS

Land for Gush Emunim

TA240628Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 24 May 78 TA

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that the land taken from the village of Kifl Harith in Samaria is indeed intended for the purpose of the Gush Emunim settlement in Hares. The 300 dunams are described as "state land." It was officially reported that the area was taken over for the purpose of a camp in Samaria, but our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari emphasizes that the Hares nucleus is at present in that camp.

Qiryat Arba' Investigation

TA231511Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 23 May 78 p 4 TA

[Text] ITIM--Illegal building around Qiryat Arba', lack of proper public services, absence of a good commercial center and a comprehensive planning concept--these are some of the subjects discussed at a meeting between members of the Qiryat Arba' executive and representatives of the Qirya residents, and the Interior Ministry director general who visited Qirya.

Mr Hayyim Kubersky, the Interior Ministry director general, stated there is no justification for not having set up a good commercial center and promised he will raise the subject for discussion with the various officials concerned. He also announced that he will see to it that a site plan is prepared for the settlement. The Interior Ministry will initiate the establishment of an interoffice committee that will guarantee coordination in developing the settlement and will also see that services for the residents and the settlement infrastructure are developed.

Shilo Settlement To Stay

TA231400Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 23 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpt] In recent talks between Gush Emunim leaders and senior cabinet members, the leaders were promised that the Shilo settlement, defined as the "diggers' camp," will not be evacuated and that funds will be invested to develop and expand the settlement. This was learned by the HA'AREZ correspondent yesterday. A pamphlet published by Gush Emunim says that there is a plan to set up several plants in Shilo.

The HA'AREZ correspondent noted that most of the land in the vicinity of Shilo belongs to the residents of the neighboring villages (Turmus 'Ayya and Qerayot) and that there are hardly any government or rocky lands near the archeological site. Defense elements said that apparently it will be necessary to expropriate a large piece of land in the area if the government decides to set up a formal settlement.

No Expropriation Expected

TA231404Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Amir Shapira]

[Excerpt] Despite the firm demand of the Judaea and Samaria settlers to urgently expand the land put at the disposal of the temporary settlements as a step toward the possibility of planning permanent settlements, it seems that the act of expropiration or seizure of lands in a significant size or scope will be prevented.

The settlement elements think that it will be possible, within a limited period of time, to carry out the expansion by procuring lands from the owners. The source that reported this believes that it is possible to overcome the delay created in locating the plots and that the state will find appropriate means of taking over the lands without being forced to expropriate them.

This problem of the limited plots prevents the settlement elements from complying with the demands exerted by Gush Emunim to begin drawing up site plans for the Gush Emunim settlements. This delays populating the settlements and employment projects. The process of locating lands, which is rather complicated since defense and government elements in addition to the Israeli Land Administration and the government's legal adviser are involved, has become the major problem in the process of populating Samaria. Before this question is cleared (the preparation of a permament plan for the settlements will be possible only after this), the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs has to make a decision about changing the status of these temporary settlements and recognizing them as permanent.

From data given to me it transpires that it is impossible today to prepare even a single site plan since most of the settlements (including 'Ofra for which a permanent plan has already been considered) are surrounded by privately owned plots. In certain cases it is possible to locate absentee lands among these plots but in order to concentrate them into a single, uninterrupted piece of land, their purchase is necessary, if indeed the owners are ready to sell.

Gush Emunim heads are investing extensive efforts now in preparing surveys. According to their claim, (on which they based the master plan they unofficially presented to senior levels) there is a large amount of rocky land throughout Samaria and the state is legally able to take it over without having to resort to expropriation.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT on Settlements

TA231408Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 May 78 p 5 TA

[Excerpt] Israel's Land Administration has recently launched an operation aimed at locating Jewish land in Judaea and Samaria. For this reason, the administration's officials are checking thousands of documents in the land registry offices in addition to documents received from citizens.

This operation constitutes only a part of a long series of steps taken recently in order to secure land reserves for the settlements that have already been set up and for those settlements which are being planned.

In the meantime it has become clear that Israel's Land Administration, according to Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon's order, has instructed the administrator of absentee property of the military authorities in Judaea and Samaria not to recognize the powers of attorney regarding ownership of land and houses prepared by the residents of the territories living in the West. It was reported that Israel's Land Administration gave this instruction without the knowledge or approval of the military authorities or the Defense Ministry.

DAVAR on Settlements

TA231523Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[Excerpts] There has been no government approval and no funds were allocated for the plan of fleshing out settlements or for setting up new towns in Judaea and Samaria.

The publications attributing this plan to Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman are inaccurate and are intended to put political pressure on the government in general and on the defense minister in particular. The defense minister's confidantes told the DAVAR correspondent that press reports on this matter over the last few days stem from leaks by the Gush Emunim members who want to give the impression that the defense minister is now in favor of large-scale plans for the establishment of Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

The same sources reported that the leak is apparently based on a discussion held about general trends a few months ago. There is no consolidated and surely no current plan in question here.

As for the demand of Gush Emunim to add more land to the existing agricultural settlements, it was learned that the defense minister indeed asked the Gush Emunim members to submit a practical plan to him. They toured the existing settlements with the deputy defense minister, but regarding these settlements too, no practical plan is spoken of at this stage and no real proposal has been submitted. It was reported that the defense minister views these leaks gravely and sees them as an intentional and unfounded publication by the Gush Emunim members.

In recent contacts between Gush Emunim heads and senior elements, it was agreed that the settlers in Shilo will not be evacuated and that the settlement will be developed.

It was learned that remarks to this effect were made by Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori to two of the Gush Emunim heads during a tour of the Gush Emunim settlements in Judaea and Samaria at the end of last week.

A senior official told the DAVAR correspondent that the government has repeatedly stated the right of every Jew to settle in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el and that this government will not remove a single Jew from Judaea and Samaria.

In the meantime, land preparation works are being carried out on 50 dunams near An-Nabi Salih, north of Ramallah. Five Jewish National Fund bulldozers are carrying out the work of establishing the temporary settlement of the Neve Zuf nucleus that has taken up residence in the police building in the region. Development works are being carried out in Bet El toward the establishment of the first 90 apartments for the settlers that took residence in an IDF camp in the region. Works are also being carried out in Hares and Tapu'ah, situated on the Nabulus-Ramallah road.

Housing and Construction Minister Gid'on Pat reported that his ministry proposed the establishment of a town, by the name of Giv'on, on the Jerusalem-Bet Horon axis. Such a town will be located on a quick traffic axis, the paving of which has already been decided. The plans are ready for immediate implementation and political approval is required for them to be put into effect.

RUBINSTEIN URGES DMC WITHDRAWAL IF PEACE NOT PROMOTED

TA222044Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 22 May 78 TA

[Excerpt] The head of the DMC Knesset faction, Prof Amnon Rubinstein, believes that the DMC will have to reach some conclusions and leave the coalition if the present policy of the government continues. Professor Rubinstein will initiate a meeting with Professor Yadin and the other DMC ministers in order to clarify his position and to convince them that if a change in the government's policy is not made immediately, the DMC should withdraw from it. Prof Amnon Rubinstein believes that the change in the government's policy, in the direction of promoting the peace talks, should be made in the coming weeks.

Reaction to Rubinstein

TA231211Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[Excerpt] Professor Yadin has not yet reacted to Rubinstein's statement. It was reported that he will speak with him about it this week. Professor Yadin's confidantes expressed discontent with Rubinstein's statement. They are dissatisfied with the fact that it was not first brought before the DMC institutions and secretariat. In their opinion, Rubinstein announced his conclusion as a result of pressure exerted by the ex-Shinui members, the opposition group in the DMC to which he belongs and which demands that the DMC withdraw from the government. This group only waited for Rubinstein's return from the United States so that he would become its spokesman.

Yadin Avoids Reaction

TA231212Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 May 78 pp 1, 8 TA

[By Avner Tavori]

[Excerpt] DMC leader Professor Yadin avoided reacting to Rubinstein's remarks. In answer to a question Yadin said: "Professor Rubinstein, thanks to his position as the head of the DMC Knesset faction, is a member of the limited DMC committee consisting of the DMC ministers and dealing with foreign affairs connected with government activity. I assume that in his remarks he expressed his intention to bring his views to a discussion in this team or committee. Good order dictates that his remarks should first be heard in this internal forum, with a reaction only later being issued to the communications media."

Minister Yisra'el Katz said: "It is allowed and even inevitable for us to occasionally assess our status in the government with regard to our degree of influence and our continued participation in it. However, it is more correct to go to the council and bring this before it. I, as the labor and social betterment minister, have also decided to ask myself to what degree we are realizing our ideas. I do not see anything faulty in Rubinstein's remarks."

It seems that tension has developed lately between the labor minister and the finance minister against the background of governmental activities concerning social betterment issues. Those who demand that the DMC withdraw from the government will apparently give this subject prominence in the withdrawal campaign.

Brilliant Considers Issues

TA240715Y Jerusalem POST in English 24 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpts] There were strong indications yesterday that Democratic Movement for Change Knesset members are considering a split in the party after party leader Yigal'el Yadin's sharp attack on MKs Amnon Rubinstein and Mordekhay Wirshubski.

Party sources confirmed the possibility of a split, saying recent events in the party could lead to a break.

In a move which indicated that Yadin would not mind a split, he reiterated at a meeting of his DMC factions: "A smaller--though pluralistic party operating in accordance with democratic procedures is better than something bigger which borders on anarchy."

Another senior party member who asked not to be identified told the Jerusalem POST that "the way they are running wild--anything could happen. They're unfair. A considerable number of them entered the Knesset on Yadin's back. Now they're spitting in his face."

Yadin attacked Rubinstein for telling Israel TV on Monday that the DMC should leave the coalition within the next few weeks unless the government moderates its policy on peace. Yadin said that it is unaesthetic and unethical for a faction member to raise such problems in the media before bringing them to party forums.

Rubinstein replied that his television interview was a personal announcement and there is nothing wrong in that.

Turning to Wirshubski who said in a radio interview that the government functioned better before the DMC joined it, Yadin exclaimed: "Even the DMC's greatest enemies didn't say that."

He told the POST yesterday that DMC members should not spit into the well from which they drink. "It is not comradely and is ruining the party."

Wirshubski's answer to this was: "Saying that I spat into the well and must draw conclusions--is out of proportion and out of place."

Another DMC MK, Zaydan 'Atshah also indicated yesterday that he might favour a split if the party's ministers would not withdraw from the government within a month.

He himself favoured such a withdrawal because of the difficulty of explaining the government's policy abroad, especially with regard to settlement in the administered territories, and Israel's territorial intransigence. 'Atshah returned on Monday from a 52-day trip to the U.S., New Zealand and Australia where he explained Israel's policies to political leaders. "They asked questions which I found difficult to answer," he said.

SHARON'S GROUP ORGANIZING FOR EXPECTED CONTEST

TA231327Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 23 May 78 p 2 TA

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Text] The Shelomziyyon Movement, headed by Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon, has begun to organize within the Herut Movement. A convention of Shelomziyyon representatives in the Herut center was held in Bnai Brith hall in Tel Aviv last week, with the participation of Mr Sharon.

It was learned that about 45 of the 60 Shelomziyyon representatives in the Herut center turned up at the meeting. The other representative of the Shelomziyyon Movement in the Knesset, MK Yizhaq Yizhaqi, said the convention was unnecessary. Among the participants were (Res) Brig Gen Uri Bar-On, Refa'el Eytan and Mark Kalderon.

It was learned that the objective of the meeting was to consolidate the Shelomziyyon people (they constitute about 20 percent of the Herut center members) toward the movement's conference and the expected contest among its heads over the succession.

SOURCES SAY U.S. AWAITS ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TA231104Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 23 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Dani'el Bloch]

[Excerpt] Authoritative political sources confirmed yesterday that the United States is not satisfied with the delay of the political debate in the government and that the Americans believe Israel can make decisions in principle regarding the future of the settlement for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip even if the written Egyptian proposals have not yet been received. These sources also confirmed that the United States has recently pressed for a firm date for the evacuation of IDF forces from southern Lebanon.

The DAVAR correspondent in Petah Tiqwa reports: The director general of the prime minister's office, Dr Ben-Elisar, said yesterday that the negotiations between Israel and Egypt are at a low ebb despite the optimistic remarks about the continuation of the process.

More on U.S. Attitude

TA231105Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 23 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] A knowledgeable source remarked yesterday that the United States is still expecting Israel's answers to the questions put to Dayan about the administrative autonomy plan during his visit in the United States. The source made it clear that it would not be true to think that as far as the United States is concerned higher priority is given to receiving Egypt's answer on the matter of counterproposals to the Israeli peace plan than to receiving Israel's answers.

The source also said that it is true that the United States, in consideration of Israel's anger about the aircraft deal, is not now pressing Israel for answers. Nevertheless, the source said, the U.S. readiness to have consideration for Israel and to wait "until the crisis and storm are over" clearly constitutes a manifestation of understanding and friendliness to Israel and is not an outcome of a U.S. "bad conscience" with regard to the deal.

The source added that from the U.S. administration's point of view, nothing was done to bring about a confrontation with Israel on the aircraft affair and that the confrontation was caused by the Jewish lobby in Washington.

Another source said yesterday that according to his assessment the United States is now working out proposals of its own for the renewal of the political momentum in order to spare each of the parties involved, Israel and Egypt, from a possible disappointment. The United States wants to save Israel from disappointment with the content of the Egyptian counterproposals if these are indeed submitted. On the other hand, it wants to save Egypt from disappointment with the content of Israel's answers to the U.S. questions about the autonomy plan.

The source is of the opinion that the U.S. proposals may become practical in about 3 weeks, after the discussions with Israel on procurement issues are over and after the Egyptian and Israeli positions with regard to problems and issues on the agenda are clarified.

POST DISCUSSES 'DEBATE RAGING' ON WEST BANK ISSUE

TA2406300Y Jerusalem POST in English 24 May 78 p 8 TA

[Editorial]

[Text] What is truly at stake, in the debate now raging on so many a domestic front, is the future of the West Bank. Which is another way of saying that the spectre of Judaea and Samaria is haunting Israel's national life.

No doubt there is a large measure of agreement among the citizenry on major aspects of the disposition of the West Bank.

It is widely agreed that the area must never again be allowed to become a staging ground for assault on the Jewish state; that it must not, even in conditions of peace, fall under the control of any Arab armed force; and that it must serve as a defensive belt for Israel against military threats from east of the Jordan River.

Beyond such accord, however, there is only conflict. The dispute reflects not so much the antagonism between the government and the opposition, as between those who view the West Bank as an inestimable asset and those who consider it--except for purposes of negotiation--as a distinct liability.

To Mr Begin, of course, this history-laden area is the heart of the nation, and any thought of parting with it--or even with a part of it--is simply unthinkable. A sufficient number of Israelis concurred, or at least did not demur, to make him prime minister.

Early on in his administration, Mr Begin came to realize that an outright claim of Israeli sovereignty over the West Bank would be the kiss of death to any search for peace. President as-Sadat's journey to Jerusalem, if anything, must have reinforced him in this conviction.

This led Mr Begin to rephrase his election pledge of spurning any redivision of Eretz Yisra'el, by promising what was termed autonomy for the Arabs of the West Bank (and the Gaza Strip). This move was applauded in Washington, last December. The applause has meantime died down, and the premier appears puzzled, even offended.

But the plan that won such hearty approval abroad was clearly expected to be only a first step towards the grant of a say to the inhabitants of the areas in the shaping of their future; the next step failed to come. Moreover, the scheme as it now stands differs quite markedly from the original--a fact not much dwelt upon by Mr Begin.

Thus autonomy now provides for Israeli control not only of the West Bank's external security but also of its public order; and it limits the right of purchasing land in Israel proper to only those Arabs who would choose Israeli citizenship.

These later changes by the cabinet effectively undermined the pretence to an equality of rights between Jews and Arabs that was to justify the claim to a Jewish right of continued settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

Lacking such a cover of respectability, the settlement drive had to be conducted--especially since Mr Begin decided that it could not be halted even for the duration of the peace talks--by stealth, by prevarication, and by false denials.

It is possible that the latest spate of denials is true, after all, and that West Bankers are unduly alarmed by the refusal of the authorities for the past several months to recognize powers-of-attorney granted to local residents in respect of what is classified as absentee properties. The expropriation of any such landed properties for Jewish settlement would be so flagrant a travesty of justice that it is hard to believe anyone in his senses, either in the Defence Ministry or in the Lands Authority or anywhere else, is contemplating it.

Among other things, such a move would constitute precisely the kind of self-seeking application of Israeli law to the West Bank that Mr Begin has undertaken to avoid.

If suspicion nevertheless persists, it is because official assurances--notably on matters having to do with the issue of settlement--tend increasingly to be disbelieved, both abroad and at home.

By draining Israel's credibility and dividing the nation, it is no exaggeration to say that the effort to make the mostly Arab area of Judaea and Samaria Jewish has become an intolerable burden on the Jewish state.

POLL INDICATES MAJORITY SUPPORT FOR CABINET POLICIES

TA2317357 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 23 May 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] A public opinion survey conducted by the Institute for Applied Social Research and the Institute for Communication at Hebrew University shows that the majority of the Israeli public supports the political conception of the cabinet and that it does not rely on the President of the United States in matters concerning Israeli affairs.

The survey shows that more than three-quarters of those polled support this government's political conception regarding the way to achieve peace, as against 24 percent, who oppose it. As for the manner in which the cabinet conducts political negotiations for reaching peace, 47 percent expressed the opinion that the manner is very good or good. Twenty-eight percent regard the manner as not good.

The survey also showed that about 78 percent of those polled think there is a prospect for the renewal of direct political negotiations with Egypt in the near future, as against 22 percent holding an opposite view.

PEACE NOW MOVEMENT SEEKS FINANCIAL AID FROM U.S. JEWS

TA2020000Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 20 May 78 TA

[Text] Tonight, two Peace Now leaders, Motti Peri and Uri Almaliah, met in Jerusalem with Rabbi Wolf (Kelman), a leader of the Conservative Jewish Movement in the United States. They wanted to discuss the possibilities of raising support for their movement among Jews in the United States as well as ways to raise financial aid for their movement from Jewish sources in the United States, our correspondent 'Amir Shaviv has learned.

Rabbi (Kelman) is one of the 37 U.S. Jewish leaders who signed the letter of support of the Peace Now Movement about a month ago.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI MEETS WITH TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES

LD231830Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, at 0900 today met representatives of [names indistinct] tribes at the Revolutionary Council headquarters. The president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, with Nezamoddin Tahzib, minister of border affairs, present, expressed his pleasure at meeting with the aforementioned representatives of the tribes and then held talks with them in a friendly atmosphere.

At the outset, Nur Mohammad Taraki congratulated them on the successful revolution of 27 April and discussed in detail the long struggles of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan. He added. We and our friends endured heavy pressures and privations for 15 years, but we were never deflected from the path we had adopted. Then, thanks to the efforts of young patriots, the heroic national armed forces and the leadership of the Demcoratic People's Party, the revolution of 27 April 1978 was launched victoriously ending the apparatus of oppression and repression, the corrupt Nadir monarchy and Daud's sham republic, and establishing a democratic republic in the country.

The president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister discussed in detail the revolution and Daud's resistance [words indistinct] and went on: I promise you there will no longer be oppressors and tormentors, because the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan comes from the people of Afghanistan and is for the people of Afghanistan. It aims to serve the workers, peasants, toilers and the majority of our noble countrymen. The president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister added: We have a political dispute with Pakistan regarding the Pushtuns and the Baluchis. We want [word indistinct] of the Pushtuns and the Baluchis to be resolved through negotiations or through a peaceful understanding.

Referring to the Ammanullah Khan period, he said: [words indistinct] Today, however, we will not allow anyone to (?plot) against us, because we have the ability to crush anyone plotting against our revolutionary order. In the past, reactionary governments used to sow the seeds of discord and conflict among our people, exploiting the situation for their own interests. Today, however, [words indistinct], and we will root out oppression and injustice from whatever source. My friends believe in [words indistinct] and the holy principles of religion and will devote themselves day and night to serving their countrymen. (?To bring about) a progressive and prosperous Afghanistan requires the cooperation of the overwhelming majority of the noble Afghan people. [passage indistinct]

The president of the Revolutionary Council and Prime Minister went on: The measures carried out [words indistinct] in implementing the objectives of the revolution have not been just window dressing, for they are part of our fundamental objectives. We plan, in the near future too, to take greater steps toward the development and welfare of our people, particularly [words indistinct] peoples.

Nur Mohammad Taraki asked the aforementioned tribal representatives, on their return to their villages and hamlets, to convey his warm greetings to their people and once again reassure them that all their revolutionary friends are working for their welfare.

Reciprocally, (?three) representatives of the aforementioned tribes expressed their thanks and gratitude for their meeting with the president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister and also expressed their support for, and solidarity with, the objectives of the revolution and its achievements.

DELHI: TARAKI SAYS ISLAM SAFE IN AFGHANISTAN

BK231109Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 23 May 78 BK

[Text] The president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Mr Nur Mohammad Taraki, has said that the revolution in the country last month was based on democratic and national principles. In an interview broadcast over Radio Kabul he said Islam will remain safe in Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

BURMESE REFUGEE INFLUX CONTINUES; 186 DIE IN CAMPS

BK240730Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 24 May 78 BK

[Text] Reports from Cox's Bazar say incessant rains for the last 5 days have further aggravated the miseries of the Burmese refugees sheltered at eight refugee camps inside Bangladesh territory.

The influx of Burmese refugees continued unabated till yesterday. The number of refugees sheltered in different camps and other places has exceeded 175,000, and the figure may well be 200,000 in a day or two.

BSS [BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSATHA] says 186 people died at different camps; most of them were children.

INDIA

BENGALEES REPORTEDLY FLEE TO INDIA TO AVOID EXPULSION

BK221420Y Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 May 78 BK

[Text] The 21 May morning program of the BBC quoted Mr Niripen Chakraborty, chief minister of Tripura Province, as saying that a large number of Chittagong natives from mountainous areas have fled into India's easternmost province of Tripura. It was said that this was the result of people fleeing from Burma into Bangladesh.

The BBC quoted the provincial chief minister as saying that since the Indian Government cannot evict these people, it is making efforts to set up camps to house them.

According to a REUTER report from Calcutta, about 3,000 refugees fled Bangladesh and entered Tripura, the easternmost province of India. It was learned that these refugees fled out of fear that they might be driven into Burma. Some Chittagong natives previously entered Burma illegally and then recently fled back from Burma. It was learned that Mr Chakraborty had said that these people, who reside in the Chittagong hill tracts, are (Waf) tribesmen and are Christians and Buddhists.

VAJPAYEE COMMENTS ON INDIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

BK240931Y Delhi ISI in English 0824 GMT 24 May 78 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister has welcomed talks between the United States and the Soviet Union on the Indian Ocean, reports AIR [All-Indian Radio]. Talking to newsmen in Vienna, Atal Bihari Vajpayee said India wanted the pace of talks to be accelerated.

He pointed out that littoral countries should be taken into confidence so that proposals for declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace will come into force soon. The external affairs minister also reaffirmed India's decision not to use nuclear energy for destructive purposes.

Vajpayee, who covered a wide range of international and national issues at his 1-hour meeting with newsmen, reiterated India's unilateral decision not to use nuclear energy for destructive purposes, adds PTI.

He recalled Morarji Desai's declaration that the Janata government had no plans even for peaceful nuclear explosions and told a questioner he did not understand why India was being singled out for criticism on its nuclear policy.

"Our unilateral commitment not to manufacture atomic weapons should have been accepted by the world without any reservations. In our neighborhood atomic weapons are being stockpiled underground, and overground tests are being carried out. We have no plans for peaceful explosions at present. But we do use atomic energy for industrialisation and for development of agriculture, and we are determined to keep on developing this source of energy."

The external affairs minister rounded off his official engagements with a call on Austrian President Doctor Rudolf Kirchschlaeger. Their talks lasted almost an hour during which the two leaders reviewed international developments and bilateral relations.

Asked to comment on recent developments in Afghanistan, Vajpayee said they came as surprise to India, but "our policy is not to interfere in the internal affairs of any country."

He said India welcomed the announcement made by the new government in Kabul that Afghanistan would continue to adhere to the path of nonalignment. "We know Afghans are very zealous about their independence, and they are very proud people."

Austrian journalists were impressed by the frank and forthright manner in which Vajpayee tackled their questions, but they also noted the skillful and diplomatic way in which he couched some of his answers.

When a correspondent asked how nonaligned Cuba was, Vajpayee replied "Cuba is a member of the nonaligned group, and the next nonaligned summit is going to take place in Havana. There were certain criteria for being nonaligned, and one was that no nation which was a member of a military pact could join the nonaligned group. [quotation marks as received]

He told a questioner that recent developments in the Horn of Africa had made them conscious about the desirability of following some mechanism through which border problems could be solved without recourse to use of force.

Commenting in particular on developments in Zaire, he said "We are sorry innocent people, including women and children, have lost their lives in the region of Katanga. We wish the problem could have been solved without foreign intervention. Katanga is part of Zaire, and we would like this internal matter to be settled without any further loss of life."

Asked about India's relations with big powers, Vajpayee said they were on a different footing with different countries. In the case of China, there had been ups and downs, but now efforts were being made to normalise relations notwithstanding the territorial question which would have to be solved some day or other.

India's relations with the Soviet Union were "very very friendly," and they had been further strengthened in spite of the fact that the social systems of the two countries differed. But that was the essence of peaceful coexistence.

Vajpayee said that with the change of governments in Washington and New Delhi at the same time, the road had been cleared for opening a new chapter of relations with the United States. President Carter had visited New Delhi, and Desai was going to Washington next month.

A beginning had been made but there were problems to be solved, as for example the supply of enriched uranium for Tarapore. India's policy was to develop friendly bilateral relations with all countries. "We do not like any third countries to come in the way of relations with another country."

Reviewing his talks with Austrian leaders, Vajpayee expressed his "full satisfaction" with the results. The two sides, he said, had agreed that friendly ties between them should be further intensified. There would be frequent contacts at the ministerial level, and his invitation to Austrian Foreign Minister Doctor Pahr to visit India had been accepted. Indian Industries Minister George Fernandes would visit Vienna shortly, and the Austrian ministers of commerce and science were expected to visit India by the end of the year. A parliamentary delegation from Austria was also likely to visit India.

Vajpayee said he had extended India's full support to Chancellor Kreisky's grand policy of international cooperation between industrial and developing countries. "We are prepared to join hands with Austria in a collective endeavour to build infrastructural facilities in developing countries."

MINISTER KUNDU COMMENTS ON NONALINED BUREAU MEETING

BK230922Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 78 BK

[Text] India's declaration on its belief in the principle of genuine nonalinement was well received at the recently concluded meeting of the 25-member Nonalined Coordinating Bureau at Havana. This was stated by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Somarendra Kundu, who returned to New Delhi today after leading the Indian delegation to the bureau. He said that India emphasized at the conference that we are away from all sorts of power blocs and military alliances and that all nonalined countries should move together to see that they stick to this principle of genuine nonalinement.

Mr Kundu said that at the bureau meeting it was agreed that the time has now come to chalk out a program on the basis of economic cooperation between the nonalined countries particularly stressing collective self-reliance and global interdependence. New Delhi's offer to have the science and technology center located in India was appreciated, and the bureau approved of it.

PAKISTAN

AFP: FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS GROUP OBJECTS TO GAG RULE

BK231631Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1610 GMT 23 May 78 BK

[Text] New Delhi, May 23 (AFP)--The Foreign Correspondents Association of South Asia had condemned the treatment meted out to more than 100 journalists in Pakistan, especially the "barbarous" public flogging and stiff jail sentences by martial courts.

In a statement today, the association urged Pakistan's chief martial law administrator and officers concerned with media control to desist from "gagging the press" or creating conditions that were detrimental to free flow of news within and from Pakistan.

MRS BHUTTO'S HOUSE ARREST EXTENDED BY 3 MONTHS

BK240808Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0030 GMT 24 May 78 BK

[Text] Begum Nusrat Bhutto has been placed under house arrest for 3 months under Martial Law Order No 12.

HAQ'S SECRETARIAT CATCHES FIRE; INQUIRY ORDERED

BK221533Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 May 78 BK

[Text] A section of the chief martial law administrator's secretariat in Rawalpindi accidentally caught fire today. Extensive damage to the building resulted. There is no report of any loss of life in the fire. The fire originated from the airconditioning plant about noon today and, fanned by a swift breeze, spread to the main building. The fire was later brought under control. A high-level inquiry has been ordered.

GOVERNMENT HINTS AT RESTORING PRO-BHUTTO PAPER

BK231728Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 May 78 BK

[Text] Talks began in Rawalpindi this afternoon between the government and the negotiating team set up by the Punjab Union of Journalists [PUJ] on the issue of the DAILY MUSAWAT [Pro-Pakistan People's Party], Lahore. The PUJ committee represented to the government that, as a result of the closure of the paper, a large number of press workers were faced with the problem of unemployment and were consequently suffering great hardships. They said that they firmly believed in responsible journalism which conforms to the norms of decency and respects the law of the land.

The government, on its part, reaffirmed that it had no intention to stifle political dissent and genuinely felt that the growth of healthy journalism was in the best interest of the nation.

After 4 hours of detailed discussions, the government indicated its willingness in principle to restore the paper, but it was felt that the framework and modalities for its restoration had to be worked out to insure that the restored paper operates within the norms of responsible journalism. It was also agreed that other related issues will be taken up in subsequent discussions.

The next session of the talks will be held in Lahore on Thursday.

The PUJ negotiating committee participating in the talks consists of the acting president, Punjab Union of Journalists, Mr Mahmud Jaffri; general secretary of the PUJ, Mr Rashid Siddiqui; senior vice chairman of the Pakistan Newspapers Employers Confederation, Mr Abdul Rashid Chaudhry; and the chairman, Karachi [word indistinct], Mr Nasimul Haq Osmani.

SRI LANKA

AFP: 22 SUSPECTED TERRORISTS ARRESTED IN JAFFNA

BK231107Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1057 GMT 23 May 78 BK

[Text] Colombo, May 23 (AFP)--Twenty-two men wanted for terrorist activities surrendered to the police at Jaffna in the north today.

Police believe they are members of the self-styled "Liberation Tigers" movement which was proscribed by Parliament last Friday.

They gathered this morning at the residence of Mr S. Kathiravelupillai, a member of Parliament of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), and gave themselves up to the police. They were among 38 men for whose arrest a "handsome" reward had been offered. Their photographs and names were printed in large posters which were displayed in public places through the country.

Police believe that seven of the wanted men are abroad. Among those away is Amirthalingam Kandeepan, son of Appapillai Amirthalingam, the leader of the TULF who is also leader of the opposition in Parliament.

Mr Amirthalingam, the TULF leader, charged in Parliament last Friday that the police had published his son's photograph in the "wanted" list as a part of a vicious campaign to smear him and his party. Speaking in the debate on the bill presented by the government to proscribe the "Liberation Tigers" movement, Mr Amirthalingam said his son was studying in London. He said the TULF, which is asking for a separate state for the minority Tamils, had no links with the outlawed terrorist movement.

The "Liberation Tigers" organization consists of militant Tamil youth, who want a separate state for the 11.2 percent Tamils in the country living mainly in the northern and eastern provinces.

The movement is reported responsible for several killings, including the murder of seven police officers, bank holdups and highway robberies.

President J.R. Jayewardene last week called out troops to assist the police in a massive country-wide operation to flush out the terrorists. Four of them were wanted particularly in connection with the brutal killing last month of a team of four police detectives who were investigating terrorist activities.

Parliament passed a bill last Friday to proscribe the "Liberation Tigers" movement and similar organizations.

The men who surrendered today in Jaffna, 250 miles (400 kms) from here, are expected to be brought to Colombo tomorrow under heavy security for interrogation.

BRIEFS

INDIAN AMBASSADOR TO SWITZERLAND--Gurbachan Singh, high commissioner for India to Sri Lanka, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Switzerland in succession to Uma Shankar Bajpai. Singh is expected to take up his assignment shortly. [Text] [Delhi ISI in English 1441 GMT 18 May 78 BK]

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Frida in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche versio (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the pap version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is $15 for any one volume and $50 for each additional volume. Th includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is $10 for any one volume, $125 for two volumes, $150 for thre $200 for four, $250 for five, $300 for six, $350 for seve and $400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outsid North America are available from appointed foreign dealer or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. governme officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly fro FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Bo 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Easter Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle Ea & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are no available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscription Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTI address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Researc Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAIL REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or b subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on fil for public reference at the Library of Congress and at publi and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151